FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 JANUARY 1985

Lebanon

At the end of the 22 January talks in Al-Naqurah, the Lebanese delegation announced its intention to present a detailed answer to Israel's withdrawal plan at the next session, scheduled for 24 January, following a Lebanese Cabinet meeting on 23 January, Jerusalem radio disclosed. Reporting on the talks, Beirut radio said the Lebanese viewed as "positive" Israel's admission of the necessity for the Lebanese Army and UNIFIL to deploy in the areas evacuated by the IDF. On the other hand, a lebanese delegation statement cited by the radio criticized Israel's failure to provide a precise timetable for the IDF's full withdrawal, asserting that Israel's planned "withdrawal" is in fact a "redeployment" aimed at evacuating an area where it is incurring heavy losses while continuing to occupy much of the south. On the question of UNIFIL, the statement confirmed that Lebanon has pledged to expand the role of the UN forces if Israel submits a detailed program for its full withdrawal. However, in remarks reported by *THE JERUSALEM POST*, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres contended that the decision to deploy UNIFIL in the areas vacated by the IDF "lies solely with the Syrians," and they have told UN representative Jean-Claude Aime that Syria is not encouraging Lebanon to ask for a UNIFIL deployment in the Sidon area, according to Jerusalem radio. Commenting on Poland's offer to participate in UNIFIL, Israeli sources cited by *MA'ARIV* predicted that the Soviet Union will make its agreement to UNIFIL's deployment in the Israeli-evacuated areas conditional on the participation of Soviet bloc units in the UN force.

Meanwhile, the IDF continued to dismantle and withdraw equipment from the Sidon area, according to Jerusalem radio. As for Israel's defense policy after the withdrawal from the current lines, a senior IDF officer cited by the radio stated that IDF patrols will cross into the areas now being evacuated whenever necessary, though their bases will remain behind the new lines.

North of the Israeli-occupied sector, the Lebanese Army began reopening roads in the Al-Kharrub region on 23 January, while in Beirut the Amal movement announced the closure of many of its offices and called on Amal gunmen to withdraw from the streets in line with government security measures, according to Voice of Lebanon and Beirut radios.

Israel-Egypt

Israeli Prime Minister Peres has sent a message to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak explaining Israel's decision to withdraw in stages from Lebanon, Jerusalem radio revealed. Israeli political sources believe that the message is also intended to facilitate a summit meeting with Mubarak in the near future, the radio added.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force damaged a Netherlands salvage tug outside Iraq's exclusion zone during its attack on shipping the night of 21 January, the *GULF DAILY NEWS* reported. Citing shipping sources, the paper said the tug was anchored less than 80 kms north of the Saudi coast when it was struck by a missile.

Iranian-Turkish Talks

Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi and his Turkish counterpart signed a protocol for construction of oil and gas pipelines on Turkish soil during their talks in Ankara, IRNA and Ankara radio reported.

Oman-PDRY

Positive results were achieved during the third Oman-PDRY meeting to discuss the border issue, muscat radio noted.

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'Arafat Arrives in Tunis From Baghdad 21 Jan

JN221721 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Tunis from Baghdad last night after ending an Arab tour.

DFLP's Hawatimah on Inter-Palestinian Dialogue

GF221936 Manama WAKH in English 1535 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Al-Shariqah, 22 Jan (WAKH) — The Fatah Central Committee is ready to overcome the disappointments of the 17th session of the Palestine National Council, held in Amman recently, Secretary General of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine Nayif Hawatimah said.

In an interview published today by the Al-Shariqah-based newspaper *AL-KHALIJ*, Hawatimah said the Palestinian National Alliance should bear special responsibility for patching up inter-Palestinian rifts and abandon the state of division the Palestinian arena is currently undergoing.

"There are different viewpoints among the members of this alliance, they have started to realize the dangers of their policy which suspended the Aden-Algiers agreement," he said.

The Palestinian leader rejected the idea of establishing a broad national front, which will deepen divisions among the Palestinians and weaken the PLO stand in the face of pressures.

Hawatimah pointed to efforts by South Yemen and Algeria to encourage dialogue among all Palestinian organisations.

Assistant Secretary of the Democratic Front Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh is currently in Algeria for this purpose.

The dialogue opens the doors of Syrian-Palestinian relations, Hawatimah said.

He added that eight dialogue sessions between the Democratic Alliance parties have already been held, and a political committee was formed to draw up a final working paper to be discussed this week.

Hawatimah stressed that the Zionist decision to withdraw from south Lebanon is a result of the pressures by the Lebanese national resistance, but he warned that not fixing a time for the second and third stages of the withdrawal would provoke sectarian differences in Lebanon.

Husayn, Mubarak to 'Pressure' U.S. on Peace

PM221457 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 21 Jan 85 pp 1 2

[Unattributed report: "King Husayn to Visit Cairo Again"]

[Excerpt] Cairo — *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* has learned that in early February Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will initiate political activity covering some European states, as well as the United States, with the aim of reviving the peace process in the Middle East and breaking the deadlock which has plagued that process for some time. King Husayn is expected to pay a second visit to Cairo in February to complete his discussions with President Mubarak on coordination between the two countries with a view to boosting Middle East peace efforts.

According to diplomatic reports in Cairo, the recent talks between Husayn and Mubarak covered the need to pressure the United States into making a move to promote peace.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that Jordan and Egypt will hold joint contacts with the PLO in the next few days on a new formula to be crystallized during the forthcoming Husayn-Mubarak meeting in Cairo.

Diplomatic sources in Cairo have confirmed that King Husayn will not be visiting Washington in the near future and will be content with President Mubarak's portrayal of the final course of action in the region to President Reagan and the U.S. Administration. That, they added, was the purpose of the meeting held in early January in Aqaba between the Jordanian and Egyptian leaders.

PLO, Egypt to Unite Stands for Peace Talks

GF221422 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 21 Jan 85 p 1

[Excerpt] The PLO and Egypt have begun work on molding a "united stand" in light of reports on Soviet-U.S. contacts to fix the time and place for their discussions on the Middle East. Well-informed sources have told *AL-QABAS* that from the Soviet side, Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern Countries Department at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will participate in these discussions, and the United States will be represented by Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs. These sources added that the discussions will be based on the two countries' stands and plans for solving the Middle East problem as contained in the Reagan plan and the Soviet proposal for an international conference.

These sources believed that a convergence of the two plans is possible by accepting the Soviet proposal as the framework for discussions and the Reagan plan as the core, provided it has been modified to include recognition of the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people. The Soviet Union was one of the countries which voted in favor of the 1967 UN Resolution 242 on which Reagan has based his plan. These sources stressed that the current Egyptian-Palestinian contacts have produced a principled agreement on the accepted "lowest limits," making possible participation with one voice in any future peace negotiations which might ensue from the Polyakov-Murphy discussions.

PLO Radio on 21 Jan Resistance Attack in Lebanon

JN211821 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance fighters attacked a Zionist military patrol that was passing near

Tibnin in south Lebanon today using rockets and machine gun fire. One half-track Zionist vehicle was destroyed and another was damaged. The occupants of the two vehicles were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation, but, as usual, refrained from revealing Zionist losses. He said his forces began a search and combing operation and arrested a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese people on the pretext that they were connected with the resistance fighters, who later withdrew safely to base.

Further Attacks Reported

JN221805 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The joint Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men continue to escalate their operations against the Zionist occupation forces' troops and vehicles, and the militiamen of the so-called army of southern Lebanon in occupied southern Lebanon, inflicting on them further losses in life and equipment.

A group of resistance men attacked a Zionist military patrol and a patrol of agent Antoine Lahd's militias in the (Al-Butim) mountains on the road leading to the township of Harir in the Tyre district yesterday. The attack resulted in destroying two military vehicles, damaging a half-track vehicle, and killing or wounding the Zionist soldiers and the agent elements that were occupying these vehicles.

Another group of the resistance men also attacked a Zionist military patrol that was passing on (Al-Qin)-Jazzin road in occupied southern Lebanon yesterday using machine guns and rockets. The attack destroyed a large military truck and damaged another, killing or wounding their occupants. A Zionsit military spokesman admitted the two operations, but, as usual refrained from revealing the losses. He said his forces and elements of the agent militias immediately conducted a search and combing operation and arrested a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens on the pretext of being connected with the resistance men, who later withdrew safely to base.

Price Changes To Be Proposed at Geneva OPEC Session

LD231105 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1002 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 23 Jan (KUNA) — Official sources from OPEC have disclosed that the organzation's price differential committee will put forward "a proposal" to the OPEC ministers during their meeting in Geneva Monday to reduce the basic price of oil by about one dollar per barrel as one of the proposals to solve the problem of price differentials among OPEC oil prices.

The sources today told KUNA that "during the meeting held by the experts of price differential committee last Sunday in Riyadh under the chairmanship of the Saudi Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani and the participation of Nigerian Petroleum Minister Tam David-West, appreciable progress has been made in adjusting the imbalance in price differentials among heavy and light crudes."

They said that the committee has reached a number of "options and alternatives" for a group of similar solutions to correct the prices differentials among the OPEC oils. They added that these proposals, or "options and alternatives," as well as the question of bringing closer the viewpoints among the producers of the heavy and light oils in a manner that would promote the interests of the 13 OPEC members and the unity of the oil organization itself, have been taken into consideration. The sources explain that these proposals will be submitted to the seven ministers on the price differential committee who will be meeting in Geneva this coming Sunday and subsequently be submitted to the full OPEC ministerial council.

The official sources reported that one of the most important proposals will be a plan to reduce the price of a barrel of Arab light oil, the marker price of $29, by $1. They drew attention to the fact that it is difficult to find a solution for the problem of price differentials without affecting the oil marker price.

The sources said that this proposal to be submitted to the OPEC ministers includes a fundamental reduction in the price of high quality light oils by about $1.50 per barrel to make its present price about $28.75. They added that the committee also proposes that the present price for a barrel of heavy oil of $26.50 should not be touched. Another proposal calls for a slight increase in the price of a barrel of medium density oil by about 10 cents to make its price about $27.75.

APS Interviews Saudi Crown Prince on OPEC Policy

LD221926 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Algiers 22 Jan (APS) — His royal highness the Saudi crown prince has granted an interview to APS in which he dealt with the most important problems of the day on the Arab and international levels.

His royal highness also spoke about the circumstances threatening OPEC and its unity. He said that certain members of OPEC did not sense the danger of departing from the law of supply and demand, thus disturbing its balance. He said they had increased production and reduced prices in one form or another which led to flooding the West with hundreds of millions of barrels which were then sold at prices lower than the official OPEC price. Certain OPEC and non-OPEC countries want to increase their production as much as possible and sell at a price different than the posted prices. This move would put pressure on OPEC members, particularly those members committed to the organization's resolutions. Then there are the oil consuming countries, which are trying to force us to reduce current oil prices. The consuming countries do not take into account the numerous economic and social disasters that will result if such a price reduction is achieved.

The crown prince concluded by saying: "I am confident that ifpressure is put on non-OPEC members to halt any moves that contravene OPEC policy, they will be unable to continue the battle, a matter which means that OPEC will triumph and oil prices will remain as they are without any reduction."

GULF AFFAIRS

Attack on Salvage Tug in Gulf 'Mystery'

GF230428 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 23 Jan 85 p 2

[Excerpt] Mystery surrounds an Iraqi attack on a salvage tug less than 80 kms from the Saudi Arabian coast. The 347-ton tugboat *Ribut* was blasted by a missile just after midnight yesterday about 15 kms north of the Ra's Tannurah light vessel. The vessel was well outside Iraq's declared war zone and was the furtherest south of any ships fired on by the Iraqis.

Shipping sources in the Gulf said the *Ribut* was at anchor when the missile struck "without warning". No-one was hurt in the attack and the *Ribut* was able to limp towards Bahrain under her own power.

The shipping sources said just what the Iraqis used in the attack was a mystery. "The *Ribut* was at the extreme range of a Super Etendard, even one firing its missiles from 50 kms away. It may be that Iraq used one of its new Mirages," said one source. Iraq took delivery of eight long-range Mirage F1 Eq5 fighter-bombers late last year. They are capable of reaching almost all of Iran's Gulf ports. The attack is the closest to the Saudi mainland since May, when Iranian Phantom jets crippled two tankers south of 'Al-Arabiyah Island.

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives Message From Mauritanian President

GF211632 Manama WAKH in English 1515 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, 21 Jan (WAKH) — H.H. Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received today a message from president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya. The message, dealing with the latest developments in Mauritania, was delivered by Mauritanian Minister of Justice Mahfoudh Lemrabott during his reception by H.H. the amir of Bahrain here today. The audience was attended by Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah and Bahraini Housing Minister Shaykh Khalid ibn 'Abdallah Al Khalifah.

The Mauritanian minister said that he had discussed current developments in the Maghreb arena as well as bilateral relations with H.H. the amir of Bahrain. The Mauritanian minister arrived in Manama the day-before-yesterday as part of a regional tour.

Trade Official on U.S. Trade With Israel

GF221812 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 22 Jan 85 pp 1, 10

[Excerpt] An official source at the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry has told *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* that the Council of the Arab Gulf Chambers Union, which convened recently in Al-Shariqah in the UAE, has denounced the U.S. Congress decision to give the U.S. President the authority to make free trade agreements with Israel, exclusive of other countries. He said that the council has urged the governments concerned to adopt the necessary measures to face the damages resulting from this decision.

KUWAIT

Hijacked Plane in Iran To Be Retrieved

GF221521 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 21 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* has learned that the crew of the plane Kazimah has left for Tehran via Dubai to retrieve the plane. Well-informed sources said that a number of technicians had earlier repaired the plane Kazimah, which was hijacked to Mehrabad Airport. The plane is expected to return within the next 2 days.

Reliable sources informed *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* that Kuwait Airlines has tightened security lately on Kuwaiti planes to protect them against mishaps.

Saudi Public Security Chief Arrives for Visit

GF201902 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 20 Jan (WAKH) — First Lieutenant General 'Abdallah 'Abd al-Rahman al-Shaykh, chief of public security at the Saudi Interior Ministry, arrived in Kuwait this evening on a 5-day official visit. He was received upon his arrival by Major General Yusuf Badr al-Kurafi, Kuwaiti Interior Ministry under secretary; a number of Kuwaiti military officials; and Saudi Ambassador to Kuwait Muhammad al-Fahd al-'Isa.

Upon his arrival, the Saudi public security chief stated that this visit comes in response to an invitation from the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry within the framework of the joint security cooperation among the GCC states. He added that this visit is an opportunity to discuss the various security topics that are of interest to both countries.

Prime Minister Receives SWAPO Leader Nujoma

LD221309 Kuwait KUNA in English 1154 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 22 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, conferred Tuesday with visiting leader of SWAPO Front Sam Nujoma, who expressed appreciation for the assistance received from Kuwait for the liberation of Namibia.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told KUNA that Nujoma explained the activities of SWAPO and its struggle for the sake of Namibian independence. The African leader, added Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, also expressed gratitude for the assistance lent by Kuwait to the Namibian efforts at the United Nations and in other spheres.

Nujoma and the Kuwaiti official discussed the possibility of providing further Kuwaiti assistance to enable SWAPO to continue its struggle for independence.

Nujoma arrived here Monday in the context of an Arab tour that already took him to Tunisia and Saudi Arabia.

Bulgarian Communications Minister Arrives for Talks

LD210939 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0711 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Jan (KUNA) — Bulgarian Minister of Communications Pando Vanchev arrived here this morning on an official visit to Kuwait where he will hold talks with senior Kuwaiti officials. Accompanying the Bulgarian minister is a delegation comprising senior officials at the Ministry of Communications in Bulgaria.

Those present at the reception of the Bulgarian official were the Kuwaiti communications minister, Engineer 'Isa Muhammad al-Masidi; a number of senior officials from the Ministry of Communications; and the Bulgarian ambassador and embassy staff in Kuwait.

During his stay here Mr Vanchev will hold technical talks with the Kuwaiti side pertaining to cooperation in the field of communications and telecommunications.

Amir Receives Message From Iraqi President

LD191223 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1013 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Jan (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah received here today a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, the contents of which were not disclosed. The message was conveyed by Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi during his meeting with Shaykh Jabir.

The Iraqi oil minister arrived in Kuwait earlier today on a visit to Kuwait lasting several hours. The meeting was attended by Kuwaiti Oil and Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi al-Sabah and by Iraqi Ambassador to Kuwait 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Umar Ghani.

AL-ANBA' Calls for Arab Support for Iraq

GF201804 Manama WAKH in English 1510 GMT 20 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 20 Jan (WAKH) — Kuwait daily *AL-ANBA'* Sunday called on the Arab seven member followup committee of the Iraq-Iran war, which will meet in Baghdad today, to announce their open support to Iraq.

The daily said that the outcome of all good will committees aiming at ending the Iraq-Iran war, are no peace, no truce, no agreement. The paper, therefore called on the seven-man committee to announce...that it stands with Iraq in its war against Iran.

The Arab committee is responsible to announce firm reality that Iraq is willing to achieve peace...and Iran reuses all peace calls and insists on continuing the war..., the paper stressed.

OMAN

Sultan Receives Message From Mauritanian President

GF221804 Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Muscat, 22 Jan (WAKH) — Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman has received a message from Mauritanian head of state Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya.

The message was handed by the visiting Mauritanian minister of justice and Islamic Affairs Mahfoudh Lemrabott to Omani Deputy Premier for Legal Affairs Fahd ibn Mahmud Al Bu Sa'id during a meeting here today.

Radio Muscat said the meeting dealt with bilateral relations and the current situation on the Arab and international arenas.

Further Reportage on Border Committee Meetings

Deputy Premier Receives Delegations

GF221358 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Fahd ibn Mahmud Al Bu Sa'id, deputy prime minister for legal affairs, received at his office this morning the heads of the delegations participating in the third meeting of the joint technical committee in charge of the border issue between the Sultanate and the PDRY. The leaders are: 'Abd al-Wasi' Sallam, deputy PDRY interior minister; 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Wahab al-'Uthman, Kuwaiti ambassador to the Sultanate; Sayf Sa'id, director of the GCC Affairs Department at the UAE Foreign Ministry; and Muhammad ibn 'Ali al-Qatabi, Zufar deputy governor. The meeting concluded yesterday.

During the meeting the issues tackled by the committee in its third meeting and the steps achieved by the committee during the meeting were discussed.

During the meeting Fahd Al Bu Sa'id welcomed the head of the PDRY delegation as the chairman of the first delegation of his country visiting the Sultanate, and lauded the efforts made by Kuwait and the UAE within the framework of the committee. He also praised the practical approach adopted by the committee in tackling the issues under discussion.

'Abd al-Wasi' Sallam, PDRY deputy interior minister, and the delegation accompanying him left the country this morning after a 4-day visit to the Sultanate, during which he headed his country's delegation to the third meeting of the joint technical committee in charge of the border issue between the two fraternal countries.

Meetings End 22 Jan

GF221132 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The joint technical committee in charge of the border issue between the Sultanate and the PDRY concluded its third session yesterday in Muscat. The meeting, held at the invitation of the Sultanate of Oman with the aim of continuing the discussion of the border issue between the two fraternal countries, stressed that the committee heard the views of the two fraternal countries. The committee also reviewed the documents and memoranda presented by the two sides.

A statement issued asserted that the convocation of the third session in Muscat brought about positive results in the discussions marked by an amiable and cordial atmosphere. The statement also reported that the committee will hold a fourth session in the PDRY at a date to be set later, following further consultations between the two countries.

'Abd al-Wasi' Sallam, deputy interior minister in the fraternal PDRY and head of the PDRY delegation to the third session of the joint technical committee, stressed that several areas of cooperation can exist between the two countries due to the deeprooted and longstanding cooperative relations between the two fraternal countries.

In an exclusive statement to the newspaper *'UMAN* published today, he said that the Muscat meeting of the joint technical committee constitutes an important step forward because it deals in a practical way with existing problems marking the borders. The meeting was distinguished by an atmosphere of common responsibility and a spirit of frankness. He added: The problems of borders exist between a number of neighboring countries. Such differences must not impede the establishment of various forms of cooperation in various fields. We believe that this is applicable to the relations between the sultanate and the PDRY. He added: The settling of the border issue will not be a condition for normalization of relations between the two countries. He expressed his delight, and the delight of the accompanying delegation, for being the first Yemeni official to visit the Sultanate. He also expressed his hope that the next round of meetings of the joint technical committee will exceed the discussion of the border issue and include numerous issues of common interest.

He then talked about the relations of the two parts of Yemen with the GCC countries. He termed these relations as emanating from a spirit of common interest to preserve the security and stability of the peoples and countries of the region. He said these relations are based on mutual respect.

Armed Forces Hold Military Exercises

GF181454 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 17 Jan 85 p 27

[Text] Muscat — Major General Nasib ibn Hamad al-Rawahi, commander of the Sultan of Oman Ground Forces, yesterday attended a military exercise in (Al-Ma'bilah) region. The exercise included an attack by an armored force. This was executed by the armored battalion of the Sultan of Oman in cooperation with other units of the Sultan of Oman Ground Forces. The exercise included three phases: an advance and engagement, a rapid assault, and reorganization.

QATAR

Dailies Warn Against Oil Price Decline

GF201802 Manama WAKH in English 1508 GMT 20 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 20 Jan (WAKH) — Two Qatari newspapers today warned against severe repercussions of current attempts to force a decline in oil prices just for short term consideration. *AL-RAYAH* newspaper and the English language daily *GULF TIMES* urged North Sea oil producers to avert any further lowering of their oil price.

Welcoming the assertion by Qatari minister of Finance and Oil that OPEC was only facing a summer cloud after which it would emerge more strong, *AL-RAYAH* expressed hope that all members would be committed to this fact so that OPEC remains a fence that protects them from all plots being hatched.

Recalling Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz's assertion that any further fall in oil prices will threaten an international energy crisis, the *GULF TIMES* asked who stands to gain from that.

Noting that beneficiaries of such a fall would neither be the consumers, nor the producers, whether at work in the North Sea or elsewhere, the *GULF TIMES* said benefits of a stable oil market go not only to producers universally, but by process of economic recycling and aid support they go also to industrialized countries and developing countries of the Third World.

SAUDI ARABIA

France Concerned About Mirage Deal With Saudis

GF211532 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 19 Jan 85 p 22

[Excerpts] Will the biggest military deal in the history of Arab-French relations be signed? The pact in question concerns 46 Mirage-2000 fighter planes, costing over 30 trillion French francs, to be sold by France to Saudi Arabia. Will this deal go through or will there be a last minute decision to stop the deal?

Well-informed French sources have said that French President Francois Mitterrand is personally following this issue because the French arms industry is currently in difficulty due to intense international competition in arms sales to the Middle East in general and the Gulf region in particular. These sources said that high-level contacts on this issue have been made between Paris and Riyadh.

These sources also said that Saudi officials have tried to reassure the French that they are determined to purchase the Mirage-2000 planes, even if the congress approves the sale of F-15 planes. These sources added that Saudi Arabia may decide to share the

deal with some Arab countries, including Morocco, and possibly the Gulf countries, or ask for less F-15 planes.

Crown Prince Chairs Cabinet Session 21 Jan

GF221940 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and head of the National Guard, chaired the Cabinet session on Monday, 21 January.

Following the session, Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir stated to SPA, radio, and television correspondents that at the beginning of its session the Cabinet listened to the report by Planning Minister Hisham Nazir on the stages of implementation of the 5-year plan in its fourth year, which encompassed all government sectors and development fields.

In his report, the planning minister noted that despite the noticeable drop in revenues, Saudi Arabia, with God's blessing and by the advice and follow-up of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the crown prince, has achieved tangible progress in various sectors of the economy. The Cabinet expressed satisfaction over the positive results included in the report. The information minister added that the Cabinet studied and made the necessary decisions on some matters on the agenda.

Iraqi Oil Minister Arrives, Makes Statement

GF200650 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi has said that during his visit to the Kingdom, he will deliver a message to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The message deals with bilateral relations and means of cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the field of petroleum. In a statement following his arrival in Riyadh yesterday, he said that during this visit he will hold talks with Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, on the petroleum situation and the forthcoming OPEC meeting.

Received by Crown Prince

GF201350 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and head of the National Guard, received today Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi who delivered to his highness a message for King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz from his brother Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, attended the meeting.

His Highness also received in his office today Nejemsaqeb Khan, the Pakistani ambassador to Saudi Arabia, who delivered to him a message from his brother Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

Nigerian Oil Minister on Oil Price Differentials

LD221341 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Nigerian Minister of Petroleum and Energy Tam David-West expressed optimism on reaching a solution for the difference in prices between heavy and light OPEC crudes. He praised the efforts made in this connection by the Kingdom, Kuwait, and Nigeria.

In a statement to SPA before leaving Riyadh today, the Nigerian minister pointed out that the price differentials committee, which is headed by Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ahmad Zaki Yamani, during its meetings in the past 2 days has drawn up its recommendations in this concern, and they will be discussed in Geneva next week. He stressed that significant progress was made during this meeting. He added that this issue could be solved at the Geneva meeting. He said we are moving toward a solution for closing the gap between these differentials and solving our petrolium problems.

AL-YAWM Reiterates Call To End Gulf War

GF210550 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 21 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Brothers, the meeting of the committee in charge of following up developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war is an extension of efforts designed to end the Gulf war and to eliminate its damages — a war that has caused great material damage and killed thousands of people in two Muslim countries. If all the costs of this war were invested in the confrontation of the enemies of Islam, then a resounding victory would be accomplished against the enemies of the Islamic nation.

On this issue, the newspaper *AL-YAWM* said today: The Iraqi-Iranian war is a lost cause in every respect. The winner in this war is a loser. How can a Muslim accept winning a war against his Muslim brother? It is a total loss. Iraq has always expressed its will to end this war. It is proper for Iran to adopt the same stance and move with serious steps in the direction of peace. This is better than the continuation of this fierce war.

It is the will of all the Muslims to have the war come to a halt so that the two peoples can then divert their attention to building their two countries and exploiting their energies in order to construct what was devastated by the war. Muslims badly need to save their efforts in order to confront the challenges they face.

Riyadh on Efforts To Further Arab, Islamic Issues

LD212208 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Jan 85

[News and comment by Samir Habib Bakhsh]

[Text] Political circles in Arab and world capitals have stressed the importance of the visit that His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud will pay to Washington and his forthcoming

meeting at the White House with U.S. President Ronald Reagan on 11 February, and the importance of the visits by Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to Algeria and France.

His Majesty the King's visit to Washington and the visit of his royal highness the crown prince to Algeria and France fall within the framework of all-embracing Saudi efforts to serve the fateful issues of the Arab and Islamic nations. The Arab and Islamic worlds are today experiencing great dangers as a result of the increasing challenges they face. In the Arab region, Israel continues to reject all of the just efforts to bring about peace and simultaneously continues to threaten regional security through its various practices. Hence, the importance of the Saudi move at the international level to motivate world powers to adopt positive stances contributing to the establishment of peace and security in the Middle East.

From this concept, observers have stressed the significance of the forthcoming visit of his majesty the king to Washington, particularly the Kingdom's positive, pioneering, and effective role at all levels — a role characterized by comprehensiveness and clarity vis-a-vis various political and economic issues being experienced by the world today which are expected to be the center of his majesty's talks with President Reagan, who has begun his second term. Naturally, the significance of the Saudi move during this period is quite clear — a move which also embraces the Arab and European arenas.

Within the framework of this comprehensive move comes tomorrow's visit by His Royal Highness the crown prince to Algeria in an attempt to consolidate the Arab march, to strengthen confidence among the brothers, and to realize the solidarity that enables this nation to serve its fateful issues and confront challenges.

The Kingdom has worked and continues to work for the realization of these aims. This was clearly evident during the visit by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud to Algeria 2 years ago and his meeting with President Chadli Bendjedid when agreement was reached to continue consultations on everything connected with the consolidation of Arab and Islamic solidarity. The visit tomorrow by his royal highess the crown prince to Algeria tomorrow, to be followed by a visit to France, falls within the framework of the Kingdom's efforts in the European arena to serve the fateful issues of this nation, particularly the Palestinian issue, which is the crux of the Middle East struggle and the focal point of the Saudi move, whether in the Arab or international arenas.

AL-MADINAH: Ethiopian People Reject Communism

GF201604 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 17 Jan 85 p 1

[Muhammad Ahmad 'Awad dispatch from Khartoum]

[Text] A leader of the Ethiopian opposition has affirmed that the attempt to form a communist party in Ethiopia has failed despite the great efforts made by the Soviets to train communist cadres. He also said that 55 percent of the Ethiopian people are Muslims and it is impossible to make them accept communist ideology.

Muhammad Ahmad Jamil, representative of the Revolutionary Party of the Ethiopian People to the countries of East and Central Africa, told *AL-MADINAH* that the opposition is carrying out a "peaceful" program which aims at overthrowing the present Marxist regime in Addis Ababa. He pointed out that the Ethiopian opposition supports Eritrean independence. He said that Eritrea can coexist with Ethiopia as a country which enjoys all the rights and privileges of a state.

On the opposition's mext move in Ethiopia, the Ethiopian politician said that it seeks to establish a nonaligned and democratic Ethiopian state.

Planning Ministry Issues Development Report

LD181432 Riyadh SPA in English 1214 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 18, SPA — Saudi Arabia has made great strides in the field of its development programs as expenditures on development projects amounted to SR821.4 billion during the recent 13 years (1970-1983), a report said.

The annual report issued recently by the Planning Ministry said development expenditures in Saudi Arabia reached SR143 billion in 1983 versus two billions in 1970, representing an annual rise of 45 percent.

The growth of actual gross national product (GNP) had amounted to SR48 billions in 1983 compared to SR17 billion in 1970, recording an annual increase of 8.9 percent during the period, the report said.

Subsidies extended to citizens during the period reached SR43 billions while governmental funds extended SR157.75 billions to people during the period in the form of investment loans, the report said.

Production of electric power reached 13,316 megawatt in 1983 benefitting 8.2 people compared to 418 megawatt in 1970 serving 1.4 million only, the report added.

Desalination stations capacity in 1983 reached 413 million U.S. gallon per day versus 5.1 million daily in 1970, the report said.

Asphalted road network connecting the Kingdom's towns and cities totalled 26,042 kms in 1983 versus 8,021 kms in 1970 while rural roads have increased to 38,644 kms from 3500 kms in 1970, the report added.

The Saudi ports had also shown big increase in their activities during the period as unloaded goods 36.8 million metric tonnes in 1980 compared to 3500 tonnes in 1970, the report added.

Number of telephones in Saudi Arabia totalled 11 million telephone versus 76,600 in 1970, the report said.

Schools and colleges reached 13,000 in 1980 (with 1.8 million students) versus 3,000 (with 547,000 students) in 1970, the report

added. Higher education students totalled 75,000 versus 7,000 and 1970, the report added.

UAE

Somali Foreign Minister Delivers Message

GF201710 Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Jan (WAKH) — UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid Abdallah today received a written message from Somali Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre dealing with the developments of the situation in the Horn of Africa and bilateral relations. The message was handed over by Somali Ambassador Abdurahman Osman Omar during a meeting with Yaqub al-Kindi, acting undersecretary at the Foreign Ministry.

WAKH: USSR Offers Scholarships to UAE Students

GF211818 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1735 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Jan (WAKH) — The Soviet Union has offered the UAE a number of university scholarships for the academic year 1985-86, which begins in September, in the fields of radio technology, communications, radio broadcasting, printing equipment technology, journalism, photography, and cinema production. The education missions administration at the UAE Education Ministry has received a message from UNESCO specifying that the duration of study ranges from 5 to 6 years, including 1 year for studying Russian. Those interested in attending university in the Soviet Union should have graduated from general secondary school. The Soviet Government will provide the students with monthly bursaries, housing, free medical treatment, and round-trip tickets after completion of their study. UNESCO has set 15 March as the closing date for receiving applications.

AL-KHALIJ on Israeli Withdrawal From Lebanon

GF210940 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0600 GMT 21 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 21 Jan (WAM) — Under the headline "Evacuation and Not Withdrawal," the UAE newspaper *AL-KHALIJ* has described the departure of enemy forces from southern Lebanon as an evacuation and not a withdrawal "because the withdrawal reflects free will while an evacuation is submission and succumbing to the will of others." The paper added that the Israeli withdrawal is yielding to de facto situations, stressing that the only alternative is continuing the human and economic attrition of Israel. This situation is neither tolerable by the enemy nor can it be dealt with by its U.S. ally.

The paper pointed out that the enemy forces were obliged to evacuate the region under pressure from national resistance operations in the south and under pressure from the Lebanese national position and its alliances. The paper added: "These factors helped in nullifying the ignominious May 17 agreement and thus eliminated the political goals which the enemy desired to attain through its invasion of Lebanon," as the withdrawal did not take place out of a free will or as a result of a moral fit.

Concluding, the paper expressed confidence that the awareness of the Lebanese will lead to scuttling all the Zionist schemes — which are designed to fan the fires of sectarian sedition — and to confronting them and to adopting measures entitled to confront them. The paper emphasized that the vigilance of the nationalist powers in addition to their Arab and international alliances are entitled to promote further the successes made and to force Israel complete its evacuation without being able to kindle the fires.

Briefs

Violations of Labor Laws — The annual statistical report prepared by the Department of Labor Investigations, which is affiliated with the UAE Labor and Social Affairs Ministry, reported 6378 cases of violations of labor and emigration laws in 1984. The report added that 5504 people were deported. [Summary] [*Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 18 Jan 85 p 2 GF*]

PDRY

YSP Secretary Receives Iran's Sheykh Ol-Eslam

GF221316 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau of the YSP Central Committee and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, today received in his office Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian deputy foreign minister, and the delegation accompaning him.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on current developments in the region and the means to promote relations between the two countries and the friendly people of the PDRY and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

YAR

President Denies Tribal Disturbances

GF181336 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 18 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has denied that any disturbances have occurred among Yemeni tribes living near the areas in which oil has been discovered. He stressed that "Saudi Arabia did not cause these disturbances which never took place." In a statement published yesterday by the Yemeni paper *AL-THAWRAH* he said "these news items are mere tendentious propaganda designed to harm the strong relations that exist between the two countries." He added that "Saudi Arabia blesses every step designed to bolster the economy of any of the Arab or Islamic country." He went on to say that the benefits of the discovery of any natural wealth will not be limited to the country in which it is discovered but will bring welfare to the Arab and Islamic nation.

Mubarak Speaks to Press on Return From Greece

PM221213 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 20 Jan 85 pp 1,5

[Unattributed report: "On His Return From Rome Yesterday Mubarak Says: There Is No Contradiction Between Our Close Relations With Greece and the Latter's Relations With Any Other State"]

[Excerpt] On his arrival back in Egypt yesterday President Husni Mubarak said in reply to reporters questions that there can never be a contradiction between Greece's relations with Syria and Libya and its close relations with Egypt. He added: "I want Egypt to have good relations with all states. There is no problem there. We also want our friends to enjoy good relations with Syria and Libya."

Asked about Egypt's position on the evacuation of the Falashas (Ethiopian Jews) to Israel, President Mubarak said: We cannot say that we approve or disapprove of that because that is up to the two sides involved, but we do not want this matter to affect the settlement of the Palestinian question. It would be an extremely serious matter indeed if the Falashas were settled in the West Bank.

As to whether the Egyptian-Turkish military cooperation initiated last August was raised in his talks with the Greek leaders, the president said: We did not discuss any military topics.

Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, who accompanied the president as a member of the Egyptian delegation to Greece, said that President Mubarak's visit to Greece was successful and further strengthened Egyptian-Greek relations.

He added: The surprise visit to Rome and President Mubarak's meeting with the Italian president, prime minister, and foreign minister have led to closer cooperation and coordination between the two countries.

The president returned to the homeland at 1645 yesterday.

Mubarak Receives Outgoing British Envoy

NC211024 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0938 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received at Al-'Urubah Palace this morning Michael Weir, British ambassador in Cairo, who took leave of the president on the occasion of the conclusion of his tour of duty in Cairo.

Mubarak, Hamrush Review AAPSO Role in Region

NC211341 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1319 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA) — Today at Al-'Urubah Palace President Husni Mubarak received Ahmad Hamrush, chairman of the Egyptian Committee of Solidarity with the Afro-Asian people, who is a candidate for the AAPSO chairmanship.

After the meeting Hamrush stated that discussions dealt with the role AAPSO can play in a number of the region's problems. Answering a question on the possibility of holding a conference of solidarity with the Palestinian people, which was scheduled to be held last year, he said: Circumstances have changed much from last year. Such a conference can be held only after reaching agreement on a unified opinion among a number of parties, such as the PLO, the Egyptian solidarity committee, and various political forces. He added: I believe that events have gone beyond the stage which required the convocation of such a conference because the PLO has taken large strides forward and has succeeded in holding the 17th PNC session.

Hamrush said that AAPSO and the Egyptian Solidarity Committee can play a large and important role within the context of the mass movement in the Arab world and the Nonaligned Movement. He added that the first AAPSO organizational meeting will be held next march in Tripoli, Libya.

Palestinians Said To Plan Terrorist Acts in Egypt

PM211335 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 16 Jan 85 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Israeli Claims About Terrorist Activity in Cairo"]

[Text] The Israeli Embassy has told the Egyptian security authorities that, according to information it received from the Israeli surveillance and intelligence services, some Palestinian organizations intend to send assassination and subversion squads to blow up Israeli installations in Cairo, especially the Israeli Embassy, the synagogue, and the Israeli pavilion at the international book exhibition due to open shortly in Cairo, and also to assassinate certain Israeli personalities holding diplomatic posts in Cairo.

The Israeli Embassy has requested that the forces guarding Israeli establishments in Cairo be reinforced. It also cabled Israel uring the government to speed up the dispatch of a large number of Israeli security men allegedly to protect the embassy.

The Egyptian security authorities are studying the Israeli Embassy's requests with extreme caution, particularly because Egyptian intelligence reports contain nothing about possible operations against Israeli establishments. These authorities have also instructed the departments in charge of monitoring foreign activity to intensify their investigations regarding Arab personalities holding Libyan or Syrian passports who visit Cairo frequently. Strict orders have been issued to the security and passport officers to make a thorough search of Jordanian, Libyan, and Iraqi passport holders entering Egypt through ports or airports.

Italy's Pertini To Visit Cairo 16 Feb

NC182044 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2025 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 18 Jan (MENA) — Italian President Sandro Pertini will arrive in Cairo on 16 February for a 3-day official visit in response to an invitation from President Husni Mubarak.

The weekly *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* reports in its Saturday edition that the Italian president's visit falls within the framework of intensified Egyptian diplomatic moves.

It is known that Italy is the EC's current president.

'Abd al-Majid on Palestinian, Lebanese Problems

NC201937 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has said that there is a pressing need to crystallize the Arab stand now or as soon as possible on a practical concept that will include the basis for a just settlement of the Palestinian problem.

This came in a statement that the foreign minister delivered this evening to the joint session of the Consultative Assembly's Arab, Foreign, and National Security Committees. He praised the Jordanian steps to restore relations with Egypt and said that Egypt believes that reaching a definite and clear Jordanian-Palestinian agreement has become an urgent and inevitable necessity for the pragmatic move toward peace.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said that, in its relations with the United States, Egypt constantly focuses on the importance and the need for reaching a peaceful and just settlement of the Palestinian cause. Egypt's contacts with the Soviet Union, European countries, and all the friendly countries also stem from this premise.

The minister spoke of President Husni Mubarak's visit to Greece and Italy. He said that during his talks in Greece, the president very clearly explained Egypt's viewpoint regarding the importance of attaining a peaceful and just settlement of the Palestinian cause that would make the Palestinian people fully exercise their inalienable national rights.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid reiterated Egypt's stand on the Lebanese problem which is based on the importance of ending the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon and the importance of the legitimate Lebanese Government retrieving complete sovereignty over all Lebanese territories.

State Prosecution Questions Arrested Communists

NC221755 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1624 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo 22 Jan (MENA) — The High State Security Prosecution has ordered the jailing of 22 members of the communist Trotskiyite Organization [al-Tanzim al-Trotskiy al-Shuyu'i] who were recently arrested.

The state security prosecution today began questioning the arrested persons under the supervision of Counsellor Raja' al-'Arabi, the State Security Prosecution advocate general. They were questioned about their distribution of pamphlets that attack divine religions, about publications and studies on methods of armed struggle and on making weapons, and about other violations.

The prosecution will continue its investigations with these persons throughout the coming days in preparation for taking legal action against them.

International Book Fair Opens in Cairo

NC221735 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jan (MENA) — The 17th Cairo international book fair has turned into a demonstration of support for the Palestinian people and the Palestinian issue. The opening ceremonies for the book fair were held this morning, with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali attending.

The Palestinian pavillion played patriotic songs all the time. The Palestinian flag was hoisted and there was also a picture of Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat. A group of Palestinian youth stood there, wearing Palestinian resistance badges.

The Palestinian pavillion includes a copy of the first statement of the Palestinian national liberation movement, Fatah, which was issued by the general command of the Al-'Asifah forces, as well as a copy of its organizational structure. The pavillion also features books and pictures about the Palestinian resistance and struggle and the Sabra and Shatila massacres. Patriotic verse by Palestinian poet Samih al-Qasim appears there on a billboard.

More Publishers Boycott Book Exhibition

PM181558 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 15 Jan 85 p 3

[Unattributed report: "More Egyptian and Arab Publishing Houses Boycott Book Exhibition"]

[Excerpt] More and more Egyptian and Arab publishers are boycotting the 17th Cairo International Book Exhibition due to open in Al-Nasr City on 22 January. Another group of publishing houses has announced that it will be boycotting the exhibition, bringing the total number of publishing houses boycotting the exhibition to 15.

Israel's Participation in Book Show Condemned

PM181557 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 15 Jan 85 p 5

[Unattribued report: "Opposition Issues Statement Condemning Israel's Participation in Book Exhibition"]

[Text] The leaders of the opposition parties have signed a statement denouncing Israel's participation in the book exhibition at a time when the Zionist enemy is committing more and more barbaric crimes in southern Lebanon and occupied Palestine and is still occupying Arab territory including Egypt's Tabah. The statement asserts that the Zionist enemy's participation in the 17th Cairo book exhibition after 2 years' absence will be an opportunity for that enemy to spread its racist poison in our country.

The statement urges Egyptian officials to immediately stop all arrangements for the Zionist enemy's participation. It urges all Egyptian and Arab publication houses not to take part in the exhibition and calls on the Egyptian public to boycott the Zionist pavilion, raise Palestinian flags all over exhibitions, and make urgent arrangements for an alternative Arab book exhibition to be attended by publishers who boycott the Cairo exhibition. It also says that legal proceedings should be initiated to prevent the

Zionist enemy's participation in the exhibition.

The signatories of the statement included Socialist Labor Party Leader Ibrahim Shukri; NPUG Secretary General Khalid Muhyi al-Din; New Wafd Party Leader Fu'ad Siraj al-Din; Al-'Ummah Party Leader Ahmad al-Sabahi; Lawyers' Doyen Ahmad al-Khawajah; Actors' Doyen Sa'd al-Din; Fine Arts Doyen Dr Salah Rida; Chairman of the Arab Committee for the Immortalization of Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir al-Sayyid al-Gharib; Chairman of the Press Syndicate's Cultural Committee Muhammad Salmawi; and Chairman of the Committee for the Protection of National Culture Dr Latifah al-Zayyat.

AL-WAFD Questions Handling of Nuclear Project

PM221337 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 17 Jan 85 pp 1,11

[Sa'id 'Abd al-Khaliq report: "Ambiguous Developments in the Egyptian Nuclear Project"]

[Text] Minister of Planning Kamal al-Janzuri has declined to hand over the economic study of the Egyptian nuclear project to the Foreign Ministry for it to be sent to West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. The study was prepared by the Ministries of Electricity, Petroleum, and Planning at the request of the political leadership. The German chancellor's office in Bonn has contacted Ambassador al-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid, our ambassador to West Germany, three times requesting that the economics study be sent speedily so that the German Government can make its decision on financing the German offer to build nuclear reactors in Egypt. The minister of electric power has also contacted Al-Janzuri several times demanding that the study be urgently sent to the Foreign Ministry to be sent on to the West German chancellor.

The likely result of the minister of planning's attitude is to exclude the West German offer from the offers made to Egypt to build nuclear reactors.

The Egyptian Ministry of Electric Power had announced a tender limited to France, the United States, and West Germany for the building of nuclear reactors. The ministry made it a condition that the offers should be accompanied by adequate financing with easy financial terms. The Ministry of Electric Power received four offers, two of which were from the United States — namely the Westinghouse Company and (Combustion Engineering) Company — a third from the French Framatome, and a fourth from the German K.W.U. Company. The Ministry of Electric Power then asked the international consultative office (Motor Columbus) in Switzerland to study and analyze the offers in collaboration with the Egyptian nuclear power station authority. The study showed that the German offer was the best from a technical standpoint followed by the Westinghouse offer in association with the Japanese Mitsubishi Company and four other European companies, then the French-Italian Framatome-Ansaldo offer. The study also revealed that none of the companies explained the method of financing.

During President Mubarak's visit to West Germany last October he raised with Chancellor Helmut Kohl the question of financing the German offer. President Mubarak also raised the same subject during his meetings with the foreign affairs, finance, and economy ministers in the West German Government. Chancellor Kohl promised to review the matter and put a request to President Mubarak that the Egyptian Government carry out a new economic study emphasizing the importance of nuclear reactors for the Egyptian economy in general and for the production of electric power in particular.

The president and the chancellor agreed that the study in question should be submitted as soon as possible so that the German Government could use it as a basis to make its decision on financing the K.W.U. company's offer . The Ministries of Planning, Petroleum, and Electric Power prepared the study on the instructions of the political leadership. But, according to information available to *AL-WAFD*, Minister Kamal al-Janzuri has put the study in his office drawer and refused to send it to the Foreign Ministry to be forwarded to Chancellor Kohl.

AL-WAFD has also learned that the U.S. Export-Import Bank has changed its mind about its previous decision not to finance the Egyptian nuclear project. The U.S. side is now exerting pressure to get the American Westinghouse Company's offer accepted.

As *AL-WAFD* is publishing these important reports which raise questions about the minister's attitude and whether it is his own attitude or on the instructions from the government. Publication of the rest of the details and available information will be temporarily withheld until it receives a statement from the minister explaining his stand or a statement is issued by the government clarifying the whole situation.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Attacks Israeli Withdrawal Plan

NC202053 Cairo MENA Arabic 2230 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan (MENA) — In its Monday commentary the newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* attacks the plan for a unilateral Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, describing it as a plot. The paper calls on all the Lebanese parties to concentrate their efforts on how to preserve the unity of the Lebanese soil and to compel the Israeli invasion forces to withdraw based on conditions that do not detract from Lebanon's sovereignty or from Lebanon's complete right to all its water resources.

In refuting the Israeli withdrawal plan, the paper says: In fact, the plan does not necessarily mean that Israel will withdraw completely from these territories because no definite date has been set for the third, final, and most important phase of the withdrawal which could be protracted and indefinite. Also no definite date has been declared for the second phase; all that has been said is that it will take place in April. There remains the first phase which, Israeli sources were eager to say, will be completed on 18 February — a matter that primarily concerns us at present.

The paper concludes its commentary by saying that the preparations which have begun for the implementation of the first phase of Israeli withdrawal from the south (?should not) distract us from Israel's real intentions and designs against Lebanon.

AL-AHRAM Skeptical About Withdrawal From Lebanon

PM211537 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 18 Jan 85 p 18

[Ahmad Baha' al-Din article: "Diary"]

[Text] Does Israel really want to withdraw from Lebanon? I do not think so. Ever since it assumed power, the Shim'on Peres government has been saying that it intends to unilaterally initiate a partial withdrawal. After many months of long discussions the cabinet approved Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's plan for a unilateral partial withdrawal from the Al-Awwali River to the Al-Litani River. No specific dates were given other than "next fall."

That means a 30km withdrawal in a whole year, that is, an average of 3km a month, or 100 meters a day, or 4 meters an hour.

Could that be serious? No, but Israel is selling an unreal commodity. It wants to appear flexible and tolerant so as to promote a suitable atmosphere for an improvement in its relations with Egypt, shelve the Palestinian question, and — more important — get the United States to grant all its additional financial requests. Then, when a year has passed, God will take care of everything and there will be new pretexts for not withdrawing or for withdrawing, according to circumstances.

Having said all that, and even assuming that the said withdrawal does take place, the south Lebanese territory from the Al-Litani River to the Israeli border will still be in Israeli hands. That is the most important part to Israel. Some 250,000 Lebanese people will still be under occupation. Israel will appear to be noble because of its "unilateral withdrawal" in accordance with the slowest withdrawal process in history — slower even than in the days when armies moved on foot or on camels or elephants.

I was admittedly shocked to read in the *JERUSALEM POST* weekly supplement a report on the Lebanese Shi'ite south under the headline "The South Bank." The West Bank is actually east of Israel but is called the West Bank because it is west of the Jordan River. The south bank is north of Israel, but they call it the south bank because it is south of the Al-Litani. The report itself is a study on means of subjugating southern Lebanon with the same success as has been achieved in subjugating the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Soviet Involvement in Mideast Talks Feared

PM211255 Cario AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 17 Jan 85 p 5

[Muhammad al-Hayawan "Word of Love" Column]

[Text] The most serious decision that could be taken would be for the United States to agree to involve the Soviet Union in theMiddle East talks, because such a decision will be taken in the absence of the Arabs, the people concerned with the cause, and because the Middle East will merely become the map of a land whose owner is absent. The Soviets and the Americans will divide the land between themselves without the owner having a say in the matter.

A Soviet-U.S. agreement on the Middle East will be at the expense of the Middle East. It will tend to divide the area into spheres of influence, and then the Soviet Union will return to the area after we thought that we had finished with it.

But the responsibility for this situation falls on the Arabs, because they are absent; their problem is being solved behind their backs and without any of them being consulted. Nobody pays attention to their requests and demands because they have still not agreed on what they want.

The only party that could participate in such talks would be Israel, because the United States will keep it informed of every step, every word, and every whisper that occurs at the U.S.-Soviet summit. Israel will emerge from these talks with more aid from the United States, immigrants from Russia, and land from the Arabs.

We would be deceiving ourselves if we imagined that the Soviet Union would stand against Israel, because it contributed to establishing it, providing it with arms, and enabled Jewish scientists to emigrate there. It is also operating in the area in coordination with Israel. Beyond this the Soviet Union would be negotiating with the United States from a position of weakness, because the United States is feeding it and providing it with grain and food.

Also, the United States has military superiority and and is several steps ahead of the Soviet Union. It will be far ahead if its future military plans succeed. The United States is far ahead in technology.

A similar situation occurred before, in the Sykes-Picot Treaty, when the Middle East was divided between Britain and France. It also occurred when Balfour gave what he did not own to those who did not deserve to have it. It also happened in Yalta after World War II and in the Nixon-Khrushchev [as published] agreement in 1972.

If the Arabs continue to ignore their principal problem in the area they will add a new loss to their existing ones; if they agree after the United States and the Soviet Union come to an agreement, they can reject and resist the division of spheres, but in that case they will only be alleviating the loss.

But if they agree today and not tomorrow, then they can save the area from division between the two superpowers, from Israeli blackmail of the United States, and from a combining of U.S. and Soviet interests. So, will the Arabs agree together?

Communique 1,719 on Attack on Maritime Targets

JN221756 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Communique No 1,719 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 22 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The achievements of Iraq's sincere sons are daily increasing and their ability to crush the remnant enemy forces is enhanced, thus making them a model for the rest of the peoples of the world in carrying out their tasks of defending truth, freedom, and human dignity. The following is a summary of operations for last night and today:

1. In order to honor their promise to the people and the leader and in order to implement Iraq's warnings to the Iranian rulers, the preachers of backwardness and ruination, our giant Air Force, which is Iraq's able, strong arm, has continued to pursue ships that infiltrate the siege on Iranian ports, both during daylight hours and under cover of darkness. At 2400 yesterday [2100 GMT 21 January], our fighter planes destroyed two maritime targets: one large and another of medium size. The Air Force eagles returned to base safely with God's protection, affirming Iraq's ability at all times and everywhere.

2. Dealing further blows to defeated enemy units, our forward units in the Central sector intensified their firepower against enemy positions, vehicles, and weapon emplacements. They scored effective hits, destroying seven infantry positions and one tank, killing five enemy soldiers, and wounding others. They also burned one hardware stockpile.

3. Using artillery, our units stepped up their pounding of enemy units east of Basra, inflicting losses in men and equipment. They destroyed three infantry positions, killing those manning them. They also destroyed two weapon emplacements and two observation posts.

4. The criminal enemy shelled a civilian Basra suburb with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 January 1985

23 Jan Attack Against 'Maritime Target' Reported

JN231119 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our capable Armed Forces, the Iraqi people's arm, will continue to daily defy the regime of charlatans in Iran and its defeated remnants. In continuation of the siege imposed on the enemy's oil supplies and in order to bring the chances of peace closer, an air strike was delivered — with God's help — against a medium-sized maritime target south of Khark at 1200 [0900 GMT] today. Our tough hawks managed to hit the target accurately and effectively before they returned safely with God's care.

Let the Iranian rulers know that the only option is their acceptance of peace. Otherwise, they will only find crushing blows falling on their heads daily.

[Dated] 23 Janaury 1985

Jordanian Trade Minister Arrives in Baghdad

JN190742 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA) — Jordanian Trade and Industry Minister Dr Jawad al-'Anani arrived here at dawn today on a visit to Iraq that will last several days.

The minister will head the Jordanian delegation in meetings of the Iraqi-Jordanian ministerial committee for economic and technical cooperation which begin here today.

Ramadan Receives Al-'Anani

JN191244 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1235 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA) -- Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received Jordanian Trade and Industry Minister Dr Jawad al-'Anani here today. The two sides reviewed bilateral cooperation and ways of promoting it.

Joint Committee Begins Meetings

JN192051 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA) — The meetings of the fifth session of the Iraqi-Jordanian committee for economic and trade cooperation began here today. Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, headed the Iraqi side, while Dr Jawad al-'Anani, minister of industry and trade, headed the Jordanian side.

In a speech at the beginning of the meetings, 'Ali praised the great development in bilateral trade and economic cooperation in the service of the two countries' national interests. He hoped that the current session will achieve positive results exceeding what has been agreed upon in the previous sessions.

Dr al-'Anani expressed his great satisfaction with the development in bilateral relations which expresses the real fraternal spirit linking the two countries. He confirmed Jordan's desire to bolster and expand the areas of bilateral cooperation in a manner that contributes to foiling the schemes of the Arab nation's enemies.

Three committees were formed to discuss topics related to bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade, industry, agriculture, and transportation.

Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali met earlier today with Dr Jawad al-'Anani and exchanged viewpoints with him on the committee's topics of discussion and the progress of bilateral relations and the means of bolstering them.

Jordan to Increase Imports
JN200630 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 20 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Baghdad (R) — Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad al-'Anani said Saturday Jordan wanted to increase oil imports from Iraq this year, currently accounting for one-sixth of the country's needs.

Dr. al-'Anani told REUTER Jordan was importing 10,000 barrels per day (b/d) under an agreement signed last year.

The minister, in Baghdad to attend a meeting of the joint Jordanian-Iraqi committee for economic and technical cooperation, said the Jordanian Government wanted to renew the agreement with a higher level of imports for 1985, but he gave no precise figure.

Dr. al-'Anani met Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, and said later they had discussed a proposed pipeline to carry one million barrels of Iraqi oil daily for export through Aqaba.

"We slightly touched upon the Iraqi oil pipeline through Jordan and stressed that the project would not commence without the requested guarantees," he said.

The 950-kilometre project, with an estimated cost of $1 billion, is being held up while guarantees are sought that Israel will not attack the pipeline.

Iraq's Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi said last August foreign institutions financing the project would be repaid in oil to put pressure on Israel and guarantee its security.

Dr. al-'Anani said: "There were no changes in the question of guarantees and we agreed to keep the project's file open until this problem was solved."

He said the joint cooperation committee met Saturday co-chaired by Dr. al-'Anani and Iraq's Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali to discuss ways to boost bilateral trade, currently running around $170 million annually each way.

Dr. al-Anani said the committee would explore new fields of trade cooperation and draw up a list of new commodities to be exchanged.

Minister Leaves Baghdad
JN221050 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0910 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jan (INA) — Dr Jawad al-'Anani, Jordanian minister of industry and trade, and his delegation left Baghdad for Amman at dawn today at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq. Dr Jawad al-'Anani headed his country's side to the fifth session of the Iraqi-Jordanian committee, which ended its meetings yesterday and resulted in the signing of joint minutes to increase and diversify trade exchange and to expand cooperation in the agricultural, industrial, technical, financial, banking, irrigation, transport, and communications fields.

During his visit, Al-'Anani held a series of meetings with a number of officials on ways of developing current cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

Ramadan Receives Letter From CSSR's Strougal
JN201700 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jan (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received today Dr Jan Straka, CSSR ambassador in Baghdad. The CSSR ambassador delivered a written message to Ramadan from CSSR Premier Dr Lubomir Strougal on promoting bilateral cooperation.

Health Minister Leaves for Doha Conference
JN191137 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA) — Iraqi Health Minister Dr Sadiq Hamid 'Allush left for Doha today to attend the 10th session of the 18th Arab Gulf countries health ministers conference and the 40th session of the Executive Bureau of the Arab Health Ministers Council.

Oil Under Secretary Returns From Jordan
JN190943 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0935 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA) — Iraqi Oil Under Secretary 'Abd al-Mun'im Hasan 'Alwan returned here at dawn today at the end of a 5-day visit to Jordan. In a statement to INA, 'Alwan said he held talks with Jordanian officials and reached an agreement to export Iraqi oil products through Jordan.

He added that it was also agreed to continue providing the Jordanian Energy Ministry with technical expertise in the sphere of oil exploration and analysis of geological information obtained in exploration operations that the Iraqi National Oil Company is carrying out there.

Briefs

New Nigerian Ambassador — Baghdad, 19 (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, today recieved (Alhaji 'Ali Jombi) on the occasion of the latter's assumption of his post as Nigeria's ambassador to Iraq. The two sides reviewed bilateral relations and ways to develop them in all fields. [Text] [*Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 19 Jan 85 JN*]

Foreign Minister Returns From Baghdad
JN221011 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
22 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Amman — PETRA — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri returned to Amman yesterday after participating in the meetings of the seven-member committee in charge of following up developments of the Iraq-Iran war, held in Baghdad the day before yesterday.

Iraq Issues Instructions on Transport of Goods
JN211707 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT
21 Jan 85

[Text] Amman — The Foreign Ministry has received a memorandum from the Jordanian Embassy in Baghdad stating that the Iraqi Government has issued a decree to the custom organs at all border points preventing persons leaving or arriving in Iraq from taking any manufactured products or bringing any goods from and to Iraq.

The memorandum also states that the Iraqi Government will implement this decision with strength by reinforcing the custom organs to enable them to assume their duties firmly.

Prime Minister Addresses Senate on Oil
JN221928 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT
22 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat has asserted that there are positive signs regarding the flow of oil from the third Hamzah well. Commenting on the Senate members' discussions in the session held today under Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi, 'Ubaydat said: The national team, which is now working on this well, has been trying for 3 days to control the flow of oil that has gushed to the surface. This calls for optimism. He said that the pressure at this well is five times greater than the pressure at the first and second Hamzah wells.

The prime minister also announced that a technical committee stemming from the Royal Commission for Adinistrative Development is now studying a way to include the employees liable to the civil service system in the social security law so that all employees in the public and private sectors will be under a unified system for retirement and social security.

The Senate also unanimously endorsed the state budget draft law for 1985 as presented by the House of Represenatives.

Bank Governor Foresees New Economic Era
JN190730 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
19 Jan 85 p 7

[By Samir Ghawi]

[Text] Amman — Dr. Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi, governor of the Central Bank of Jordan, pointed out on Wednesday night that both internal and external factors are forcing a new economic course in Jordan. He stressed that self-reliance is the key-word to be implemented and emphasised in Jordan's economic pattern.

Dr. al-Nabulsi, guest speaker at a Lions Club dinner held at Tyche Hotel, said that despite Jordan's autonomous economy during the 1950's and 1960's it interrelated deeply and strongly with the economies of the region and the international community during the 1970's.

This interaction, Dr. al-Nabulsi added, was fuelled by the oil boom and it resulted in creating a new atmosphere and a series of development mainly in the following areas:

— Increased official Arab aid to a level that amounted to one-third of Jordan's foreign income.

— Expansion of remittances from Jordanians working in the Gulf that reached 40 per cent of the Kingdom's foreign income.

— Deep local interchanges brought about by inflation and zero unemployment.

Dr. al-Nabulsi, noting that this situation has primarily charac-terised the economy in Jordan with much sensitivity to international developments, said that the current economic hardships facing the economy nowadays centre on the turmoil in the oil markets and the political instability in the region but that these two foremost factors have nearly bottomed out.

Dr. al-Nabulsi described the hardships as being the worst since the few years that immediately followed the 1967 war with Israel but that all economic growth rates are still positive and in many cases better than what is being registered in other Third World countries and even some industrialised economies.

On the local front Dr al-Nabulsi saw an urgent need to boost cooperation and understanding between the private and the public sector.

He said that the recent moves by the public sector to expand its activities and investments have shaken the trust and the leading role of the private sector over the years.

Dr. al-Nabulsi said that the preparation of the five-year development plan currently underway should be a time for constructive debate on strengthening the ties between the private and the public sector in order to cement the understanding on maintaining the long peculiar balance that have characterised their relationship for many years.

Noting that foreign income has dwindled and that increased dependence of local resources was imminent along with cuts in expenditures Dr. al-Nabulsi cited the following points to maintain economic health of the country:

— The 1985 budget deficit is probably more than in previous years and it is very unwise to keep the deficit at this level in as much as it is important to lower it as much as possible.

— It is very important that expenditures should be reduced drastically especially on investments of very low return or investments requiring high foreign currency spending.

— Increase of spending on viable and profitable projects through public sector budgeting through the private sector.

— Increased efforts to save foreign currencies through boosting exports and services and through backing the progress of various sectors especially in agriculture, tourism, transport and contracting.

He said the Central Bank of Jordan will now concentrate on defending the balance of payments based on the recent fall in foreign currency income and will also intensify its efforts to help the government consolidate its revenues and meet the deficits and investment needs.

He also reiterated the importance that the bank sees in providing the liquidity necessary to reactivate the market adding that words such as "retreat," "recession" or "slowness" have often characterised Jordan's economic performance in the past and that such descriptions do not reflect any hindrance in Jordan's continued economic progress.

Dr. al-Nabulsi in answering few question put to him later by the audience said that the Jordanian dinar has never been as sound and healthy as it is now being 100 percent covered by a basket of currencies.

He also urged the banks in Jordan to undertake deeper studies and evaluation when extending credit facilities.

AL-DUSTUR on Israeli Withdrawal From Lebanon

JN211213 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
21 Jan 85 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "The Imminent Test in Southern Lebanon"]

[Text] As the Israeli occupation forces begin dismantling some of their military installations in the western sector of southern Lebanon, so begins the practical partial withdrawal of these forces of invasion, leaving behind certain facts. These can be summarized as follows:

1. This limited evacuation from the most densely populated part of southern Lebanon is most urgent, as far as the occupation forces are concerned, because they have suffered their severest losses in this area. Through this operation, Israel hopes to perpetuate its occupation of the remaining parts of southern Lebanon without suffering massive human and material losses. We believe that the next few weeks will determine the truth of this Israeli assumption which lacks practical testing.

2. The first phase of the Israeli withdrawal will be a hard test for the power of the central Lebanese authority and for its practical ability to deploy southward, where mobilized rival local forces exist which waylay one another hoping to gain new influential positions or to settle old or overdue accounts.

3. The retreat of the occupation forces, which Israel is carefully preparing for, may expose some Palestinian gatherings in that area to the risk of revenge, reminiscent of the Sabra and Shatila massacres in the fall of 1982. By this, Israel hopes to declare itself innocent and to show the world that these massacres, should they occur, have taken place after the Israeli withdrawal.

4. After Israel's withdrawal from a precisely specified area in southern Lebanon, UNIFIL, which is stationed in an area deeper than this partial withdrawal area, will be entrusted with tasks connected with the security of the Lebanese citizens and the Palestinian refugee camps there. This immediately achieves the declared Israeli demand that UNIFIL forces be stationed north of the area where the agent Lahd forces are assuming security missions that are connected to Israel's strategy of protecting its northern settlements.

In light of these points, the next few days will test the intentions of all the forces present in the occupied Lebanese territory. The course of Lebanese events in the next phase, including the other phases of the Israeli withdrawal, will determine the outcome of these intentions. Therefore, all Lebanese forces, particularly the central authority, should be in control of all events and manage them in a manner that will serve Lebanon's supreme interest and force Israel to continue its withdrawal from the occupied Lebanese territories.

AL-DUSTUR on Future U.S.-USSR Mideast Talks

JN191631 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
19 Jan 85 pp 1, 24

[Editorial: "The U.S.-USSR Consultations and the Required Arab Stand"]

[Text] The U.S. officials' affirmation that their government will hold periodic consultations with the Soviet Union on the Middle East crisis has a broad meaning, despite all the statements Robert McFarlane, President Reagan's adviser for national security affairs, made stressing that these talks will be held and that this development does not indicate a change in the traditional U.S. attitude toward the region's crisis.

Regardless of the justifications the U.S. officials put forward while announcing such an agreement with the Soviet Union, and regardless of the reassurances these officials have made to Israel in advance, there is no doubt that holding such talks is, in itself, a major political event and the first crack in the wall of the U.S. position which rejects any Soviet role or viewpoint concerning the Middle East crisis.

However, a cause for sorrow is the fact that such a positive change in the international stand toward the region's issue takes place in the light of Arab circumstances dominated by division and fragmentation and in the maze of miserable Arab conditions that do not help the international community in dealing with our causes seriously enough. Moreover, under the current circumstances, any possible treatment of our causes may come at the expense of the Arab question if the current Arab situation persists.

From this premise, the Arabs must follow up the imminent Soviet-U.S. talks on the Middle East with the same attention with which they must view their own situation and pursue their sincere efforts to extricate themselves from the present deadlock. Perhaps this will encourage further international concern for their issues and, in the meantime, prevent these issues from being pushed to horizons that are not desired by any sincere Arab.

While realizing that any exchange of viewpoints between Moscow and Washington will be surrounded by many dangers and that agreement on the various aspects of the region's crisis requires much time and reciprocal concessions, we also realize that it will be difficult for the Arabs' friends and adversaries to reach common denominators in their stands as long as the Arabs lack one political language and one effective and unanimous stand, something which indicates the importance of holding an Arab summit conference through which the Arabs can speak to the world — a world that is finding it difficult to understand the Arabs and their differences.

Reportage on 13th Round of Al-Naqurah Talks

Talks Recessed for Consultations

NC221103 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1025 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Dispatch by NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent Antoine 'Awn from Al-Naqurah — recorded]

[Text] The morning session of talks ended at approximately 1140 so that the Lebanese delegation and the command could hold consultations after the other side outlined on a detailed map the points of withdrawal in the first phase. The Lebanese liaison officer told journalists that the withdrawal will be from Al-Awwali bridge and Sidon up to the Rum Heights and down to the approaches of Ansar and Abu al-Aswad. However, this line is flexible and it will be defined by the other side later, according to the Lebanese officer.

He revealed that Israeli delegation head 'Amos Gilbo'a affirmed to Staff Brigadier General Muhammad al-Hajj that within 5 weeks, after 18 February, there will be no Israeli soldier in the said area, and that the Lebanese Army will be responsible for security in this area after that date. Gilbo'a was interrupted by Al-Hajj who stressed that the responsibility for security until the said date must be born by the Israeli forces, and subsequently the responsibility for the Sidon incident yesterday should be born by the Israeli forces. Gilbo'a admitted this. Al-Hajj hoped that the incident will not recur, because it is not in the interest of the two sides to stir up sensitivities, not only in Lebanon, but also in Israel and in all other countries.

The Lebanese officer stressed that the Lebanese side recorded a positive point at today's session — Israel's admission of the necessity of the Lebanese Army and UN forces' presence in areas evacuated by Israel. He attributed this to recent international contacts.

Israeli delegation spokesman Yona Gazit confirmed that today's round of talks will not be the last. There are many issues to be completed. The Lebanese side heard a briefing on the withdrawal from Sidon and its environs. Gazit affirmed that Major General Lahd's forces will withdraw from Sidon and its environs before 18 February.

The three delegations are now having lunch with General Gallaghan. The talks will be resumed this afternoon.

Talks Resume After Recess

NC221251 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1205 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Dispatch by NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent Antoine 'Awn from Al-Naqurah — recorded]

[Text] The three military delegations resumed their meeting at 1330 today. A short while ago, the Lebanese delegation gave out the following official information: The Israeli delegation has not set a timetable for their full withdrawal from the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya — something that was demanded by the Lebanese delegation during the 12th session of the talks.

What Israel is now implementing is not a withdrawal from Lebanon, but a redeployment of its forces, as is evident in the Israeli Cabinet statement. Israel is seeking the following:

1. To delude the world and the Israeli public that there is withdrawal, while in fact what is happening is redeployment based on: A) Evacuating an area that aggravates the Israeli Army in view of the area's high population density and the increase of the Israeli Army's losses as a result of the Lebanese resistance; B) Continuing to occupy the greater part of the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya and linking withdrawal from these areas to whimsical considerations that depend on new decisions to be made by the Israeli Government; C) The Israeli Government has declared that it is determined to retain a border strip which it will control through local forces who will take orders from it, and who will be supported by the Israeli Army, instead of agreeing to station the UN forces on the internationally recognized borders in implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425.

2. To reduce the losses inflicted on the Israeli Army by the national resistance.

Meanwhile, it should be noted that Lebanon has pledged to expand the role of the UN forces if Israel submits a detailed program for a full withdrawal from Lebanon.

Talks to Resume 24 January

NC221453 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The second session of the 13th round of the Al-Naqurah military negotiations between Lebanon and Israel under UN auspices ended at 1500 today. Timor Goksel, official spokesman for the UN forces in the south, read the final statement at the end of today's round. He announced that the 14th round of negotiations will be held on Thursday.

The NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY's correspondent at the Al-Naqurah negotiations sent us the following report:

[Begin recording] The afternoon session of the military talks ended a short while ago. Timor Goksel, UNIFIL's official spokesman, read a joint statement stressing that the discussions will be resumed in Al-Naqurah at 0930 on Thursday.

The statement says that the 13th round of the Lebanese-Israeli talks, held under UN auspices, was devoted to military issues connected with the withdrawal of Israeli forces, and the adoption of security arrangements in southern Lebanon, Rashayya, and western Al-Biqa'. The statement adds that the Israeli delegation presented and explained the Israeli Government's 14 January decision, and that the Lebanese delegation expressed reservations arising from the position it announced during the 12th round on 7 January. The talks will be resumed in Al-Naqurah at 0930 on Thursday. [end recording]

UN's Aime Arrives in Beirut, Meets Al-Turk
NC231018 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] UN Assistant Secretary General Jean-Claude Aime arrived in Beirut from the occupied Arab territories aboard a UN plane this morning. He immediately went to the Foreign Ministry where he met with Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk and his senior assistants to assess the results of yesterday's talks in Al-Naqurah and to exchange views on the Israeli withdrawal.

Israeli Convoy Seen Leaving Southern Camp
NC231101 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] An Israeli military convoy was seen leaving Tallat Mar Ilyas in the south shortly after 1000. The convoy consists of two trucks towing prefabricated houses, other trucks laden with ammunition and hardware, and two armored personnel carriers. The convoy headed toward the border strip.

Trucks To Remove Hardware
NC231214 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Our correspondent in the south has reported that 30 Israeli trucks followed the Jazzin-Sidon Road at 1310 before heading toward the Tallat Mar Ilyas and Sharhabil Ibn Hasanah camps from which they will remove Israeli installations and hardware. Two armored personnel carriers are escorting the trucks.

Karami Blames Israel for Beirut Explosions
NC190941 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami said in a statement published in Dubai today that the recent explosions in Beirut will not deter the Lebanese Government from continuing its efforts to end the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory. Karami added that such actions will not succeed in diverting the Lebanese Government's attention from its struggle against the occupiers and their tools, and will not stop its march to remove the occupiers and to ensure Lebanon's independence and guarantee its interests.

The prime minister affirmed that the Israeli enemy is behind the explosions that have been taking place in Beirut from time to time.

VOH: ASL Not Asked To Leave Withdrawal Area
JN221245 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1100 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] The command of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] has categorically denied the reports from some news media that Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin suggested during his meeting with Staff Major Antoine Lahd that the ASL soldiers and their families leave the areas to be evacuated by the IDF and go to those areas that will remain under Israel's control. The command explained that talks between Lahd and Rabin have not dealt with this subject at all.

The command of the ASL draws attention to the fact that information should be confirmed by its official sources before being published or broadcast.

Paris' AL-MUSTAQBAL Interviews Walid Junblatt
JN201133 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 19 Jan 85 pp 17-19

['Imad Jawdiyah dispatch]

[Text] *AL-MUSTAQBAL* met with Walid Junblatt, Druze community and Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] leader at his palace in Al-Mukhtarah on the morning of the second day of the Lebanese Army deployment along the coastal line and the Iqlim [Iqlim al-Kharrub]. This was the first time that I met the man. However, his kind invitation to me to have a mountain breakfast with him, and his characteristic frankness created a kind of amity between us. The talk was not devoid of funny instances and spontaneous jokes. The man does not like resonant speeches and lengthy statements. His dialogue with us was brief, but comprehensive. What does Walid Junblatt want from the government? When does he oppose it, and when does he support it? What kind of Lebanon does he want? Is it true that he has ambitions for a Druze state? Where does he stand with regard to relations with Syria? What is the extent of his alliance with the USSR? He had quick and ready answers for these questions, and sometimes he would interrupt the question as if he wanted to jump ahead of events.

The following is the text of the interview:

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Yesterday, the Army was deployed along the coastal road and the Iqlim. Two weeks ago, you opposed such deployment. What made you change your stand and finally agree to the Army's entry into the Iqlim?

Walid Junblatt: The previous plan seemed to be aimed at occupying the mountain and besieging it from the Iqlim. The present plan can be described as a plan for crossing into the south. Of course, we agreed to some Army units being deployed along the coastal road and Iqlim al-Kharrub, provided the Lebanese Forces withdraw from the Iqlim. This is because any Phalangist presence in the coastal area or villages in Iqlim al-Kharrub will create tension with those entering the south, particularly the nationalists. I have warned of this in advance. If the Lebanese Forces remain there, then that will be a different matter.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: It has been repeatedly said that if Israel carries out a partial withdrawal, you will enter the coastal part of the Iqlim by force?

Junblatt: This is not true. We have absolutely no plans to occupy the Iqlim. Of course, there is a nationalist Iqlim, and there are nationalist forces from the people of the Iqlim. If they ask for our help, we will be willing to help. However, as far as we are

concerned as a party, we have no current plans to carry out any military operations in the Iqlim, or anywhere else. We are willing if the other side or the Army wish to defuse the Suq al-Gharb front.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Does this mean that you are willing to open the Beirut-Damascus road? Can we regard this as an imminent step?

Junblatt: That depends on the Army and its intentions, and on Amin al-Jumayyil's intentions. We are willing. If they want to defuse the mountain front, we are willing to do so.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: As far as relations with the government are concerned, sometimes they are good and you visit Bikfayya and meet with President al-Jumayyil; and, on numerous occasions the contacts are suddendly stopped. How do you explain this stand? Why did your contacts with the government stop?

Junblatt: They stopped because he refuses to reach any agreement with us.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Then you are not against President al-Jumayyil personally, but against the government?

Junblatt: As far as I am concerned, there is no difference between the two. Amin al-Jumayyil represents a certain trend in this government. He represents the Phalangist trend, and we oppose this course because it contradicts with the democratic, nationalist course we are trying to build.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: But if such relations with the government continue, this may exacerbate the situation and will not contribute to solving the internal crisis?

Junblatt: Some people inside and outside Lebanon believe that it is possible to close the Lebanese file. I believe this is wrong. We may be able to achieve a temporary truce but the Lebanese file cannot be that easily closed. First, there is the internal settlement.If this is achieved in the manner that some want, it will be a fragile settlement. It will be a settlement for distributing or redistributing the spoils of sectarianism. This is a temporary measure. We do not need an extra or one less director general, or to replace one sect with another, as a colleague in the National Democratic Front had said. This is not what we want. We believe that national, democratic, and secular unity, and the abolition of political sectarianism, are the only means to solve the Lebanese crisis. However, if we remain trapped in the doldrums of sectarianism, then the colonialists or the West will be able to use this as a weapon against us.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: You are pessimistic then?

Junblatt: I am not pessimistic, but this is the real situation. I believe that the Phalange Party will remain committed to Western interest's even if it signs a document exonerating itself from such a commitment after having been forced to abrogate the 17 May agreement.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: What have you achieved after the mountain war and the abrogation of the 17 May agreement?

Junblatt: Nothing. I want to be realistic when I have to say that we have not achieved anything after that. We merely gained the title of his excellency the minister, as if we needed it. We abrogated the 17 May agreement, but have we abrogated the spirit of this agreement? No, we merely abrogated its form and not substance. This is my opinion, but in general its abrogation is regarded as a greaat victory. The Phalange Party retreated from the mountain and Beirut. However, this does not mean that this retreat is strategic, but a tactical retreat. This means that as soon as the opportunity arises it will attack us.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Does this state of affairs necessitate that you will continue to arm, from the USSR as it has been said?

Junblatt: We arm ourselves because it is a matter of existence as far as we are concerned as the PSP, nationalists, and Druze. When circumstances are suitable for a real settlement, then that will be a different issue. We are arming ourselves and they are arming themselves. The source of my arms is Libya, not the USSR. We have strong relations with Libya.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: There is no strategic, military relations with the USSR then?

Junblatt: There are political relations.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: However, the West regards you as striking with the USSR's sword in Lebanon?

Junblatt: As far as the West is concerned, they regard every opponent as a communist. However, I have dispensed with Western terminology. I changed my mind about the West a long time ago.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: What about your relations with Syria, particularly now that it has set up bridges with the Lebanese Government after the abrogation of the 17 May agreement?

Junblatt: Syria has bigger interests than some of the Lebanese sects. Syria has strategic interests in the region and is trying to close the Lebanese file if it can. It is trying to take the Lebanese to the so-called accord. However, there are many obstacles because Syria is not alone in the arena. There is the U.S. and Israeli presence as well as the presence of the Lebanese reactionary forces, which do not want accord through the Syrian initiative or efforts in this regard. We support Syria's course. We drew Syria's attention in advance to the Phalangist policy linked to all that opposes the pan-Arab course.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Let us talk about the internal situation. The violations and violence taking place in West Beirut are very dangerous. You, as a socialist party, are not directly in charge of security in Beirut, However, you have a military presence there. What is your role? Are you happy with such a situation which threatens the return of Beirut citizens?

Junblatt: West Beirut has become a group of islands. Each party has its own area and influence. Coordination among these islands is required — coordination between Amal and the nationalist forces to stop fighting and to observe the agents.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Is this coordination absent today?

Junblatt: Coordination exists, but it should be reinforced, particularly with regard to security.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: What about your alliance with the Amal movement and Nabih Birri?

Junblatt: There is no problem.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: The role of the leftist parties which you lead is absent in light of the factional onslaughts which the arena is witnessing these days. These parties are also incapable of playing their role in such a situation.

Junblatt: Regrettably, the factional onslaughts exist. We are trying to activate the nationlist front, because its national course is an alternative to the factional onslaughts.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: What is the story of the statements distributed in West Beirut within the framework of a divisionist scheme?

Junblatt: No, there is a new attempt to create chauvinism among all parties. The Druze presence in Beirut is natural. Beirut is for all. There is conflict between the Socialist Party and a certain reactionary faction. The source of the statements is known.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Where does Walid Junblatt's relationship with the rest of the Islamic leaders in Beirut stand?

Junblatt: My relations are good. I put all my military and political potentials as a party at the disposal of the nationalist and Islamic forces to confront Phalangist hegemony. I do not constitute a danger to anyone. The Druze do not constitute a demographic danger to anyone. The 200,000 Druze do not threaten the population. If they want, they can benefit from me for salvation from hegemony and for real participation.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: If your course is unifying, why did you not allow the displaced Christians to return to the mountain?

Junblatt: Regarding the return of Christians to the mountain, we tried with some nationalist Christian figures, even with Camille Shamun, to draw up a plan for the gradual return of Christians to the mountain. The plan was obstructed due to the Phalange Party's interference. The Phalange Party wanted the displaced persons to return to the mountain through it. Camille Shamun rejected and hesitated; the rest of the Christian figures, such as Fu'ad al-Sa'd, Samir Franjiyah, and Najib Abu Haydar hesitated also. The plan was completely obstructed. How can the Christians return under these circumstances? Anyhow, their possessions are still there.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Thus, we consider the presentation of the Druze state [question incomplete].

Junblatt [interrupting]: This accusation comes from the Phalangists who established their state in 1975. They accuse us every now and then of divisionism. Throughout Lebanon's history, there has never been hegemony over the economic potentials as the case is now. Everything is in their hands, and we are dependent on them. West Beirut and the nationalist areas have become like the poor districts surrounding Calcutta and Bombay. They [the Phalangists] are the bourgeois who control everything.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Then, you oppose partition and the establishment of a Druze state?

Junblatt: Partition cannot be forced on us. Our proposals are national and unitary. I reject these accusations, coming as they do from those who have already called for partition.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: What are the bases of the existing ties between the Lebanese and the Israeli Druze?

Junblatt: There are no ties. There were only contacts when the mountain was besieged and when the Phalangists were there. Praise be to God, all these contacts have completely stopped.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: What about reports on differences within the Druze community?

Junblatt: They are trying to create the so-called Al-Yazbakiyah faction, or the Junblatt faction. But I tell them to stop this trivia. This will not affect internal Druze unity and cohesion.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Reports say that a reconciliation meeting will be held soon between you and former President Sulayman Franjiyah.

Junblatt: Basically there is no problem between me and former President Franjiyah. We differed in Lausanne on reform demands. We have very strong personal relations. As you say, a meeting will take place between us in the near future. He invited me to visit him in Zgharta and I will make the visit as soon as possible.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Within 2 weeks?

Junblatt: God willing.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Some quarters say that 1985 will be the year of solution in Lebanon.

Junblatt: There will be no solution in Lebanon so long as the Phalange Party is in power. There may be a truce or a temporary solution, but in my opinion there will be no solution so long as the Phalange Party is in power.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Does this mean the security and political situation in Lebanon will remain as it is?

Junblatt: As for security, they are sending booby-trapped cars to us in the mountain and West Beirut. The escalation in the political situation is comprehensive. If some ministers think that appointing a general manager or some other official is the end of the problem, they are mistaken. This is not our demand. Even the settlement formula reached in Lausanne is not a solution. Does

a solution in Lebanon mean that the House of Deputies should consist of 50 Muslims and 50 Christians?

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Then what you agreed in Lausanne is no longer needed?

Junblatt: What was reached in Lausanne is gone with the wind. Nothing has been realized from this, and nothing will be realized. Even if something were realized, it would be too late. Lebanon needs a comprehensive, deep-rooted, national solution; otherwise, we will always be in a whirlpool of distributing shares among the communities. This keeps the seeds of the civil war alive.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Do you not believe that Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon could contribute to the settlement of the Lebanese crisis?

Junblatt: In my opinion, Israel will not withdraw from all of southern Lebanon. It will remain in some parts directly or indirectly, through Lahd or someone else. It will also remain on Al-Baruk mountain. In the future, we may see Israeli settlements in the south. I do not exclude the possibility of its bringing the Ethiopian Jews who recently arrived in Israel and establishing them in the occupied Lebanese territories. That's why, before speaking about a solution to our crisis, we must think how to liberate our land from Israeli occupation.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: What kind of support do you provide to the Lebanese nationalist resistance?

Junblatt: We modestly support the resistance and will continue this support.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: How do you assess the difficult economic and social state of affairs Lebanon is experiencing?

Junblatt: There is a conspiracy to wipe out the poor and middle classes in the country. I believe that in light of this state of afairs, Lebanon will witness a stifling economic and social crisis because the bourgeois class continues to plunder the people's money.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: How do you evaluate your relations with Western countries, particularly the United States?

Junblatt: There are no good relations between me and the United States. I do not love them and they do not love me.

Junblatt Praises 11th Brigade, Assails Army

NC200800 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] During a rally in 'Ayn Zhalta yesterday, Minister Walid Junblatt stressed that the battle is not yet over; rather, it has just begun. Junblatt said there is no difference between the 11th Brigade and the Druze Popular Liberation Army. Junblatt roused what he called the patriotic brigades against the Lebanese Army, urging the 11th Brigade to act as a nucleus for a patriotic force, and recalled that he has fought for the 11th Brigade. Junblatt called on Colonel Amin al-Qadi, commander of the 11th Brigade, to cooperate in preserving what he called a historic achievement. Junblatt concluded by saying: We want an army that fights beside us, one we can be proud of — just as we are proud of the 11th Brigade.

Colonel Amin al-Qadi also addressed the rally, saying: When we decided to leave the Army, we did so out of conviction and despite the resulting complications. We all belong to Al-Shuf. I hope we will never disappoint Walid Junblatt.

Jordan's AL-RA'Y Interviews Sa'id Sha'ban

JN211634 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Jan 85 p 11

[Interview with Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement, by unidentified *AL-RA'Y* correspondent in Beirut — date not given]

[Excerpts] *AL-RA'Y*: How do you view the solution to the crisis in Tripoli?

Sha'ban: We believe that the solution in Tripoli will be achieved within the framework of a solution to the problems that encompass all of Lebanon. A doctor cures the entire body, not part of it. Lebanon is one body that suffers from confusion — the confusion created by the regime that entrenched the privileges to the Maronites. Today, they want to increase these privileges on the pretext of fear of the Muslims and Islamic oppression. We say that this pretext is false. The Muslims preserved the Christian existence in Lebanon. Meanwhile, the owners of the privileges expelled the Muslims from their areas and plundered people at all ports and in all places. The solution to the crisis is to dissolve this regime and to replace it by a just rule. Otherwise, there will be no solution, especially through those who have believed in piracy since 1943.

AL-RA'Y: Therefore, do you believe that the crisis in Tripoli reflects the crisis of the whole country?

Sha'ban: Yes, undoubtedly it is part of the crisis of the country and the regime.

AL-RA'Y: In that case, what was the role of the local parties in Tripoli in creating the crisis?

Sha'ban: There are no parties in Tripoli. Tripoli is one city from one race. However, Tripoli suffers from siege; it is besieged economically and militarily. We hope that the siege will be lifted. It is exposed to harm from outside. We hope that after our visit to Damascus the harm will be removed. We also hope that we can contribute to our city's stability. Owners of the house seek well-being for occupants of the house.

AL-RA'Y: In case the security plan is implemented in Tripoli, what is your opinion about the role of the Lebanese Army there?

Sha'ban: We do not oppose the role of the Army. But, where is the Army? The Army is fragmented and its units are fighting themselves. Anyhow, we never opposed the Army's deployment in Tripoli. The Army's deployment in Tripoli will not be any better than its deployment in Beirut.

AL-RA'Y: You were in Damascus before your visit to Beirut. What was the objective of your visit [to Damascus], and what did you achieve?

Sha'ban: We clarified some existing ambiguities between us and our brothers whom we visited. We explained that what has been reported are mere rumors. When there is a problem we should meet to explain things. We are continuously in contact with Syria through its representatives in Tripoli or through our officials who visit Damascus. We exchange visits, and we hope that they will achieve good results.

AL-RA'Y: What is your opinion of the talks between Lebanon and Israel? Would these talks lead to liberation?

Sha'ban: The talks are a recognition of Israel. The territory will be liberated only by force and the resistance being launched against Israel. We hope that the national resistance in the south will be reinforced by men, potentials, and experience. The only way to expel Israel from Lebanon and Palestine is by force.

AL-RA'Y: If the talks lead to expelling Israel from the south, will they be rejected?

Sha'ban: Israel will leave the south only through imposing submissive conditions. We and the entire world know the Jews. The experiences with the Jews throughout centuries and throughout many years in Lebanon assert that they are racist and that they do not abide by pledges. The Jews' manners and political racist aspirations cannot be changed. Hitler was the only person who knew how to deal with the Jews after he became frustrated with them.

AL-RA'Y: You criticized Prime Minister Rashid Karami. What is the reason for this, and what is the nature of your relationship with Karami?

Sha'ban: The criticism is from a person to his brother. In my opinion, Prime Minister Karami should not have formed a government with the Phalangists. The Phalangists should fall into a Cabinet crisis so the racist Phalangist regime in Lebanon would fall. I advised Karami openly and in front of all people, but he insisted on trying the war. What should I do to him?

Al-Murabitun on Security Plan, Israeli Withdrawals

NC191519 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] The higher central political committee of the Independent Nasirite Movement — Al-Murabitun has affirmed the movement's decision, role, and position during this phase regarding various political actions in Lebanon, or those which followed the Israeli invasion in the June war.

Regarding the Beirut security plan, the committee emphasized in a statement that the movement's stance regarding the question of ensuring the citizens' social and living needs is the main mission of the movement and of the Al-Murabitun forces. Hence it has been decided to achieve coordination in the Security Committee among the Al-Murabitun, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the Amal movement in the security and military fields under the auspices of the Mufti's office.

The statement stressed that the movement is committed in this phase to interact and offer whatever serves the security of our people in Beirut on the basis that the movement's role has no political connection or implication, and has no connection with the political decision made by the government in this respect, because the regime's political decision is of no concern to us.

In its statement, the committee says it is necessary to develop the Security Committee and to have its actions controlled by representatives of the parties concerned, who will be active and capable of making and implementing decisions.

The statement warned of Israeli attempts to implement withdrawals with planned security eruptions to achieve the Zionist goals in Lebanon, by turning Sidon and its environs into an area of sectarian fighting and massacres, and by liquidating the remaining remnants of the Palestinian people in their camps in southern Lebanon.

Birri Discusses Developments, Sees Delegation

NC211252 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, today focused his attention on security and political situations. Since this morning, Minister Birri has been following up the security and political situations, particularly in Beirut. He has been contacted by Posts Minister Joseph al-Hashim, Former Minister Khalid Junblatt, and Mufti Shaykh Hasan Khalid. Minister Birri also contacted former Minister Marwan Hamadah.

Minister Birri also received a delegation of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party. After the meeting, party member Mahmud 'Abd al-Khaliq said that the visit was connected with the general situation in the country, whether in Beirut or in the south, which is currently facing a fundamental and fateful situation. He said: We must be vigilant and foil the seditions which Israel is planning. We must also support the national resistance to maintain its struggle against the Israeli enemy. The talks also dealt with the question of kidnapped persons and the need to resolve their issue.

Various Developments in Security Situation Reported

PSP Denounces 'Awn 'Threat'

NC201818 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The Army commander has threatened, through his representative on the Security Arrangements Committee, Brigadier General Jean Nasif, to shell all the villages in the mountain. The Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] representative on the committee denounced this threat and said that the Army and its commander will be responsible for the consequences of his aggression. Instructions were immediately issued to the people to be cautious

to avoid any foolishness and aggression that the Army might commit.

A responsible military source in the PSP has made the following statement: We regret very much the overt involvement of Army Commander General Michel 'Awn and the threat which his representative on the Security Arrangements Committee, Brig Gen Jean Nasif, has conveyed to us, to shell and destroy the mountain villages if we do not comply with his [word indistinct]. This new overt stand, which he has tried to cover up by misleading the Lebanese by saying that the Army will return to its normal role of protecting all the citizens, once again shows the Army Command's constant practice of sectarian bias which had been established by [former Army Commander] Ibrahim Tannus. We hope that what Gen 'Awn has declared is no more or less than a slip of the tongue so that his end will not be like that of his predecessor, which the Lebanese remember quite well.

VOL on Syrian 'Warning'

NC211312 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] West Beirut's political leaders met today in Dar al-Ifta'. The meeting was chaired by Mufti Hasan Khalid and attended by former Prime Minister Salim al-Huss and representatives from Amal, socialists, and Al-Murabitun members. The conferees discussed the deteriorating situation in West Beirut and the means to control it and stem the wave of bombings, killings, and kidnappings.

The Voice of Lebanon has learned that a Syrian lieutenant colonel, from the Al-'Awad family, attended this meeting and conveyed a warning that Syria will act if clashes continue between the West Beirut organizations.

Karamah on Security Plan

NC211340 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The Phalangist Political Bureau and Central Council have held their joint meeting under Dr Elie Karamah, who voiced the hope that an atmosphere of conciliation would prevail in the south and spare the Lebanese any incidents following the Israeli withdrawal. Karamah added that there is great hope that the Lebanese Army would, in collaboration with the United Nations, be able to fill the vacuum resulting from the withdrawal. This is particularly true, the Phalangist leader said, because the contacts made recently — domestically and abroad — with political and spiritual leaders, revealed a common desire to see the Israeli withdrawal implemented in peace — a matter which will be facilitated by the implementation of the security plan for the coastal road and Al-Kharrub region.

In this respect, Elie Karamah pointed out that the Phalangists and the Lebanese Forces are working for the full implementation of the security plan so as to eliminate all complications and loopholes.

The Phalangist leader also disclosed that his party has given instructions to its cadres in the south, and to Christians there, to work to this end, because it is to the benefit of everyone that the current events assume a peaceful course — despite the contradictory allegations by others.

Amal, Al-Murabitun Representatives Meet

NC211443 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Two meetings were held, in the Amal movment office and the Al-Murabitun office, during which all problems between the two sides were dealt with. It has been decided that representatives of both parties tour the areas of the clashes with a view to withdrawing the gunmen, restoring complete tranquillity, and bringing reassurance to the citizens.

It has also been decided to hold another meeting to assess what has been implemented in joint coordination between both parties, to prevent the occurrence of any problems in the future, and to frustrate the efforts of those who are fishing in muddy waters.

Security Council Meeting Held

NC221304 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] At 1030 Joseph Skaf, minister of information and acting interior minister, chaired a meeting of the Internal Security Council at the Public Security Directorate General. The conferees discussed the measures decided upon during the Cabinet session regarding the security situation in Greater Beirut.

Following the meeting, Minister Skaf said: We discussed means for implementing the Cabinet's recent decisions on the withdrawal of gunmen, closure of parties' branch offices, collection of heavy weapons, removal of barricades and earth barriers from the streets of Beirut, and removal of political cover from those who breach security.

It seems that during the last 7 days there have been no kidnapping incidents or the closure of crossing points. This is a good sign, encouraging the implementation of the Cabinet's decisions. I hope that the situation will gradually improve.

Minister Skaf declared that the security commands will begin implementing the Cabinet's decisions as of tomorrow morning. Patrols will be deployed and fixed security posts will be set up in various quarters of Beirut.

It is recalled that the Security Arrangements Committee met yesterday and adopted decisions in this respect.

Amal Implements Cabinet Decisions

NC230740 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The Higher Tripartite Liaison Committee has decided to close all offices of parties and movements, with the exception of the main office of each party and movement, to remove armed

appearances and to withdraw political cover from everyone who disturbs security.

Parties and organizations in Beirut will this morning begin implementing the measures taken during a recent Cabinet meeting. These measures provide for the closure of party offices in West Beirut — except the main office of each party and organization, provided this is done with the knowledge of the security authorities concerned — and for the prevention of armed appearances and gunmen.

An official Amal movement source declared this morning that in accordance with the decisions adopted by the Cabinet during its 17 January [as heard] meeting on the security situation in Beirut, and in implementation of the agreement reached during the recent meetings held among the Amal movement, the nationalist forces, and the 6th Brigade — particularly the meeting held on the evening of Monday, 21 January in the Henry Shihab Barracks — the Amal movement declares the closure of all its branch offices in West Beirut. It also affirms its commitment to withdraw its gunmen and to eliminate all armed appearances from the streets, thus giving the opportunity to the 6th Brigade and the Internal Security Forces to carry out their role of maintaining security in Beirut.

The source added: While the Amal movement stresses its eagerness to bring about the success of the security measures, it cautions all movement members that they must observe these measures and discipline as well as facilitate the Army's task. The movement also emphasizes that it will lift political cover from all violators.

Iqlim al-Kharrub Roads Reopened

NC230855 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Our correspondent in Iqlim al-Kharrub just reported that the Lebanese Army has started to reopen the internal roads and has set up patrols in coordination with the Internal Security Forces.

The following roads have been reopened: Al-Jiyah-Barja, Al-Burjayn-Barja, Al-Burjayn-Shhim, 'Ayn al-Hawr Darayya, Majdaluna-al-Mughayriyah, Mtulla-Hasrut, Mtulla-Bsaba, and Mazra'at al-Dahr-al-Za'ruriyah.

Work is now in progress to remove two ramparts that were erected by the socialists in Bsaba and Duhur Hasrut.

Lebanese Front Denounces Explosion

NC221230 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The Lebanese Front today pointed out the serious threats resulting from the shelling directed at East Beirut from West Beirut.

The Lebanese Front denounced yesterday's explosion in Sidon. It expressed its profound regret for the innocent victims who were injured. It also denounced the perpetrators, their instigators, and their affiliations as well as every terrorist act.

PSP's Al-Fatayri on Incident

NC221347 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Anwar al-Fatayri, Progressive Socialist Party secretary general, today said: The most important thing is that our struggler friend may be cured, and that he and his family are not harmed by this attack or this conspiracy which the agents inaugurated by assassinating Ma'ruf Sa'd [Mustafa Sa'd's father]. This conspiracy was aimed at eradicating the nationalists and Muslims, and at establishing a new Israel on Lebanese territory. Just as the blood of Ma'ruf Sa'd and that of the innocent martyrs protected Sidon from this conspiracy, making Sidon remain genuinely Arab despite the occupation, we have great hopes that Mustafa Sa'd's blood, and that of his friends will protect nationalist Sidon from what is being plotted for it — such as changing one occupation for another, or delaying the expulsion of the occupier at the hands of the heroes of the brave nationalist resistance.

Al-Fatayri added: We promise the people of struggling Sidon that we stand behind them in their current ordeal and that we shall extend our hand to help them overcome this ordeal.

Al-Murabitun Leader Contacts Family

NC221504 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, [leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement — Al-Murabitun] has contacted Brother Mustafa Ma'ruf Sa'd's family and also the Nasirite Popular Organization's [NPO] command, and told them that what is directed at Sidon, at Brother Mustafa Sa'd and at the NPO, is actually directed at Beirut, Al-Murabitun, and all the nationalist and Islamic forces. This matter, as it is clearly known, had it made incumbent on us to shoulder all the requirements of resisting the conspiracy ever since Israel invaded Lebanon in June 1982.

Brother Qulaylat emphasized to Brother Mustafa Ma'ruf Sa'd's family that all of Al-Murabitun's institutions and resources are at the disposal of steadfast Sidon's Islamic, nationalist, and revolutionary forces to confront the plot of the withdrawals by the Zionist enemy who, as it appears, will be leaving behind him groups of his agents and associates to implement his objectives.

Islamic Jihad Threatens To Strike at Italians

NC230643 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] According to Italian officials, seven Lebanese were accused of planning to launch a suicidal attack against the U.S. Embassy in Rome. In telephone calls with foreign news agencies in Beirut, the Islamic Jihad organization denied any affiliation with the accused. The organization, however, threatened to strike

at Italian interests in Lebanon if the accused are not released.

Ansar Detainees Accuse Israelis of Germ Warfare

NC220816 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 21 Jan 85 p 7

[Excerpt] The grouping of Ansar camp detainees has submitted a memorandum to the International Committee of the Red Cross affirming that the Israeli occupation authorities "have been using germ warfare for biological experiments on Ansar camp detainees." The grouping demanded that "a neutral international factfinding committee be set up to ascertain this, that three international doctors be sent to examine the detainees regularly, and that all sick detainees be freed."

Briefs

New Egyptian Envoy — Chamber of Deputies Speaker al-Husayni met with Muhammad Nuhad 'Asqalani, the new head of the Egyptian interests section in Lebanon, who was accompanied by former head Salah Zaki. 'Asqalani said: It was a protocol visit on assuming my duties in Lebanon, to bid farewell to Brother Salah Zaki, and to affirm to Speaker Al-Husayni Egypt's principled stand, supporting Lebanon and the complete Israeli withdrawal from all Lebanese territory. [Text] [*Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Jan 85 NC*]

Further Reportage on USSR Salimov-Led Delegation

Visits Al-Qunaytirah

JN221404 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1320 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 22 Jan (SANA) — Akil Salimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and his accompanying delegation has visited Al-Qunaytirah, which lies to the south of Damasscus. The Al-Qunaytirah governor welcomed the friendly delegation and explained the situation in the city before and after the occupation and the methods used by the enemy to destroy the city. He said that Zionism and imperialism had destroyed the city, but they had failed to destroy our will and determination. Concluding his speech, the governor greeted the socialist countries, particularly the friendly USSR which supports our just issues, as well as honestly and sincerely supporting justice and peace.

In a speech, Akil Salimov, the head of the Soviet delegation, said: The USSR people know and appreciate the Arab Syrian people's struggle against imperialism. They also know that the aggression against your city was a U.S. aggression perpetrated by Zionist hands.

The friendly delegation then toured the city, visited the martyrs' cemetery, and laid a floral wreath on the monument.

The head of the delegation made an entry in the visitor's book in which he asserted that the destruction of Al-Qunaytirah is evidence of the brutality of the Israeli aggressors and of the heinous and inhuman crimes they have perpetrated. He said that the destruction of the city will not be in vain.

Received by Al-Shar'

JN221544 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus — At 1300 today, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation led by Akil Salimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is now visiting the country. The meeting was attended by Jabr al-Kafri, chief of the East Europe desk at the Foreign Ministry, and Felix Fedotov, USSR ambassador in Damascus. The talks revolved around the current situation in the region and in the international arena.

Gambian President Arrives in Damascus 22 Jan

JN221541 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] At 1700 today, Gambian President Dawda Kairaba Jawara arrived in Damascus on a visit to Syria. President Hafiz al-Asad led those who received the guest Gambian president. He was also received by Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm and Foreign Minister and head of the escort of honor Faruq al-Shar'.

The guest Gambian president is accompanied by official delegation which consists of Lamin Kiti Jabang, minister of external affairs, and Dr Oman Jah, Gambian ambassador in Jeddah.

Begins Talks With Al-Asad

JN221858 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad and Gambian President Dawda Kairaba Jawara began their official talks at 1900 today with a closed session. The talks dealt with the situation in the Middle East.

President Hafiz al-Asad gave a banquet in Damascus Hall this evening in honor of Gambian President Dawda Kairaba Jawara. The banquet was attended by Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the deputy prime ministers, the ministers, the heads of the diplomatic missions in Syria, and media officials. The Gambian delegation accompanying President Jawara also attended the banquet.

Two British Parliamentarians Arrive 20 Jan

JN211053 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0750 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 21 Jan (SANA) — British parliamentarians Dennis Walters and Ian Gilmore arrived in Damascus yesterday evening on a 3-day visit to Syria at the invitation of the People's Assembly.

During their visit, the two British representatives will meet with several state and People's Assembly officials and will hold talks with Dr Muhsin Bilal, the chairman of the People's Assembly Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee.

Received by Khaddam

JN221206 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received British parliamentarians Dennis Walters and Ian Gilmore at 0930. Attending the meeting were Dr Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the People's Assembly Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee, and the British ambassador in Damascus. The talks dealt with the current Arab and international situation.

British Parliamentarians Depart

JN231400 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1330 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 23 Jan (SANA) — The British House of Commons delegation, which is composed of parliamentarians Dennis Walters and Ian Gilmore, left Damascus today after a 2-day visit to Syria during which they met with a number of government and People's Assembly officials.

They were seen off at Damascus International Airport by Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the People's Assembly Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee.

AL-BA'TH on U.S., Arab Reactionary Schemes

JN211135 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Press review]

[Text] Regarding the moves of the parties to the Arab reactionary axis and under the headline "The New Schemes and the Awaited Downfall," *AL-BA'TH* says: The sides to the reactionary Arab axis attach great importance to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's second presidential term for solving the Middle East crisis in the American way, as Reagan promised before the elections which returned him to the White House. These sides urge the United States to quickly launch an initiative, because they have exhausted all their efforts to rearrange and prepare the region's situation according to previous U.S. directives and because they fear changes might occur in the region and waste their efforts after they have pinned so much hope on them.

The reactionary axis sides have begun to breathe their last breath because of the painful blows that the masses inflicted when rejecting their plans and liquidatory solutions. The great success the Lebanese national resistance, backed by Syria in particular and by the Arab masses in general, has achieved not only forced Israel to adopt the decision of unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon, but also forced the Arab reactionaries to retreat and exposed their defeat to the masses. The only option that is left for them is to head for the United States to save what can be saved of the remnants that are still carrying out their assigned tasks in the service of imperialist U.S. schemes in the region.

Perhaps this is why the Arab reactionaries are exhorting the United States to quickly embark on the initiative declared by the Pentagon and U.S. State Department circles. Israel, which was forced to adopt the withdrawal decision, is now asking the United States to intervene in order to give a moral dimension to its decision before world public opinion and to work toward maintaining the Zionsit entity's prestige. The reactionary axis countries which linked their fate to the United States are also concerned with the U.S. initiative in order to save their self-respect and to continue serving their masters' schemes. Furthermore, these axis countries are even ready, with the remaining power left for them in the arena, to contribute to what may beautify the Israeli reputation or improve its appearance to public opinion. Yasir 'Arafat's call for the United Nations to protect the Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon after Israel withdraws is only a contribution in this regard.

The Arab citizen, who has discovered the falsehood and pretense of the reactionary axis states, would not be surprised to hear them announcing that they were behind Israel's decision to withdraw from southern Lebanon, each according to its task assigned by the side for which it works and the side to which all results flow — the Pentagon and CIA circles.

In all cases, it is possible to say that the masses which toppled all suspect solutions, foiled all attempts to harm the honor and dignity of the Arab nation, and achieved glorious victories when they were destined to control their affairs, can foil the new schemes, regardless of the forces that support or stand behind them.

AL-BA'TH on U.S. Policy, World Plans

JN230916 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0755 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 23 Jan (SANA) — The newspaper *AL-BA'TH* stresses that Washington is determined to continue its traditional hostile policy, plans and programs in order to restore its collapsed positions in the world and to impose its hegemony and control on strategic areas so as to open new doors for its interests and monopolies.

The paper refers to President Reagan's remarks, in his inaugural address, regarding the large-scale NATO maneuvers in various parts of the world. It says that the maneuvers already in progress, and future maneuvers, are a practical expression of the true U.S. course, and a continuation of this hostile course.

The paper asserts that the hostile U.S. intentions during Reagan's second term are no less than they were during his first term despite all the developments that have taken place in the international arena in the past few months, and despite the agreement between the two superpowers to remove the atmosphere of cold war in the world. It adds: There are no signs that the U.S. President and his administration want to practically achieve an international detente that would alleviate tragedies in the contemporary world.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: The hostile, provocative U.S. policy will remain, whether on the level of escalating the traditional and nuclear arms race on earth and in space, or fomenting the hot beds of tension and aggression in the world. The paper stresses that this hostile approach will only exacerbate the international situation and reduce the prospects of any progress that would avert the threat of nuclear explosion that has prevailed in the world since Reagan took over power.

Oil Minister Raps Israel's Two-Seas Canal Plan

JN200713 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus — Oil and Mineral Wealth Minister Dr Ghazi Durubi has described the current Zionist enemy plan of digging a canal between the Mediterranean Sea and the Dead Sea as a hostile plan that would do great economic harm to neighboring states, particularly Jordan, in which two thirds of the Dead Sea coast line is situated. Durubi said that the rise in water level which will result from this canal will rob Jordan of large areas of arable land in the Jordan Valley. He added that Syria submitted a memorandum to the World Energy Conference, which was held in Algiers last September, explaining the negative effects of this hostile plan.

The minister pointed out that the Israeli plan is aimed at entrenching occupation of the Arab land through which the canal passes.

PFLP Raps PLO Trends, Contacts With Egypt

JN221935 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus — The PFLP has condemned the continued contact between the pillars of the deviationist, rightist leadership in the PLO on the one hand and the Egyptian regime on the other, the latest example of which was Khalil al-Wazir's visit to Cairo and his meeting with senior officials in the Egyptian regime.

In a press statement published today, a responsible source in the Front said that this secret visit is an expression of the deviationist leadership's insistence on its policy of concessions through coordinating with the reactionary Jordanian-Egyptian axis based on King Husayn's liquidatory initiative. The statement also called on all the progressive and patriotic Palestinian forces to close their ranks within the framework of a broad national front in order to confront the trend of deviation as a necessary stop to restore the PLO's unity and safeguard its nationalist line.

'Arafat Said Responsible for Al-Qawasimi Death

JN182208 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Palestine broadcast: "On the Events" program]

[Text] Political assassination is a very serious phenomenon and the Palestinian struggle has suffered from it — whether before 1948 or after the start of fedayeen action in the mid-1960's. All studies that have assessed the 1936 revolution in Palestine concluded that the use of political assassination was wrong and that it harmed the revolution. This applies equally to the post-1965 stage, which continues until now. If we attempt to examine this phenomenon in the Palestinian arena during the past 20 years, we will find particular signs that will enable us to understand the dimensions of this phenomenon.

While we exclude those who were executed by the resistance men inside the occupied land for collaborating with the Zionist enemy and who are naturally outside our topic of conversation, the circumstances of the assassinations of the others who were killed are related to one of the following facts: opposition to 'Arafat, blind loyalty to him, or joining him and his Executive Committee in unionist, organizational arrangements that ended in absorbing the side that adopted these arrangements and assassinating this side's leaders.

These qualities apply to the Fatah leaders who were assassinated under mysterious circumstances — circumstances in which suspicions pointed to 'Arafat and his leadership; to the independent leaders who cooperated with 'Arafat and his leadership, who began to complain about his behavior and the behavior of his leadership, and who ultimately paid the price for such complaining; and to the PLO representatives abroad who paid the price for either appeasing 'Arafat's excessive course or for refusing to appease his course. Naturally, except for certain incidents for which the Zionist Mossad organs or 'Arafat's opponents are responsible, suspicions were raised over 'Arafat's responsibility for political assassinations in this arena.

Furthermore, strong suspicions over the recent incident in Amman, in which Fahd al-Qawasimi was assassinated, pointed to 'Arafat and his clique. Although initially believed that the 'Arafatist method of settling issues was represented in this assassination by an attempt to create the conditions that 'Arafat exploits in order to perpetrate terrorism on the one hand and to find sympathy for him and his clique to bring them out of their isolation on the other, subsequent reports strongly point to the responsibility of 'Arafat and his clique for Fahd al-Qawasimi's assassination. [sentence as heard]

This is after it became clear that there was a disagreement between Fahd al-Qawasimi and 'Arafat's henchmen in the occupied homeland affairs department. The disagreement was over the way in which the steadfastness funds were being squandered on enemy agents rather than being spent on nationalist institutions. 'Arafat and his clique feared that Fahd al-Qawasimi might expose or change this state of affairs after having threatened to do so. Therefore, they liquidated him in order to hand over the aforementioned department to Khalil al-Wazir, and in order to keep its secrets within their control. These reports say that Fahd al-Qawasimi's wife and family strongly believe that Yasir 'Arafat is responsible for his assassination in light of their knowledge of the disagreement between Fahd al-Qawasimi and 'Arafat's henchmen.

Is 'Arafat solely responsible for all political assassinations in the Palestinian arena, starting with the assassination of Yusuf 'Arabi, or not? The question is obvious. We must seriously consider this question, because a serious phenomenon such as political assassinations should neither continue nor be dealt with indifferently. Those who instigate these acts should not remain out of the limelight that should be directed at those who play this game in order to settle private accounts. This does not help the Palestinian issue. On the contrary, this game harms the issue.

Al-Wazir 'Ordered' Al-Qawasimi Assassination

JN201851 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Palestine broadcast: Talk of the Return]

[Text] Brothers on the path of revolution and liberation: When Fahd al-Qawasimi was assassinated, we said doubts about the assassination surrounded 'Arafat and his clique. Despite 'Arafat's mourning for his victim, the facts were disclosed. Khalil al-Wazir is the one who planned and ordered the assassination. The sole reason why Khalil al-Wazir assassinated Fahd al-Qawasimi is that although Fahd al-Qawasimi was in political agreement with 'Arafat and his clique, he stood up against the theft practiced in the Occupied Territories Department by the 'Arafat group and against the ways the steadfastness funds were spent.

Fahd al-Qawasimi disclosed his intention to purge that department of the corrupt personnel and to correct deviation. This matter would have affected Khalil al-Wazir and his clique, who quickly got rid of him. Yasir 'Arafat immediately authorized Khalil al-Wazir to run the Occupied Territories Department, replacing the victim with the killer. Thus, Khalil al-Wazir and

his clique will have the opportunity to continue stealing, faking, and cheating.

Yasir 'Arafat proved that he was a partner to Khalil al-Wazir in the crime. The ugly face of the 'Arafatist group was exposed.

These facts are known to our masses in Jordan. This made 'Arafat and his clique more isolated; they live in fear, tightening the guard around them, and have become incapable of moving from one place to another. The Jordanian authorities know these facts and they are not happy about the assassination of Fahd al-Qawasimi, who was considered loyal to them and on whom they could depend to play a political role in the service of the Jordanian regime in a future settlement. The Jordanian authorities realize that the assassination of Fahd al-Qawasimi by 'Arafat's clique was the result of 'Arafat's political calculations and their objections to the Jordanian regime's policy. This makes the relationship between the Jordanian regime and the 'Arafatist leadership surrounded by doubts, despite the solidarity shown by the two parties toward this relationship.

What proves the soundness of this fact is that 'Arafat did not recommend Fahd al-Qawasimi and Muhammad Milhim for PNC membership in the 15th and 16th sessions, although they attended as observers. Granting Al-Qawasimi and Milhim membership at 'Arafat's divisionist council and electing Al-Qawasimi as an Executive Committee member was an implementation of the Jordanian regime's desire and a gift to that regime. But, 'Arafat reneged on his gift by assassinating Fahd al-Qawasimi. How long will the honeymoon between the Jordanian regime and 'Arafat's clique last? Will the conflict over interests destroy the alliance of these two parties?

The Jordanian regime has succeeded in destroying and weakening 'Arafat and his Executive Committe by showing them as forgers and killers. The Jordanian regime employs them to serve its policy without giving them any option. If 'Arafat and his clique try to rebel agaisnt the Jordanian regime's will, that regime will liquidate them. We do not believe that 'Arafat and his clique will be able to rebel agaisnt that will, because the Jordanian regime has become their last haven.

Palestine Broadcast on Israeli Withdrawal

JN211948 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Palestine broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers: Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres recently tried to give the impression that he had the will and the choice regarding the current Israeli occupation forces' partial withdrawal from some areas in southern lebanon. We do not deny that there is some element of will and choice behind this Israeli withdrawal. However, the reaction to and obligation for this Israeli withdrawal are far greater than a matter of will and choice. In any case, Peres' attempt to falsify the matter by describing it as a matter of pure choice was not merely an attempt but a form of the miserable self-importance that is unique to Israeli leaders, particularly Shim'on Peres.

However, Peres neglected an important fact — self-importance cannot conceal compulsion, especially since the relative progress of Peres and the Labor Party in the recent Israeli elections was due to his promise to withdraw from Lebanon if he won the elections. This means that the withdrawal from Lebanon was an Israeli society prerequisite as a result of the Lebanese resistance strikes and not out of a desire for peace or respect for the freedom and rights of others.

Shim'on Peres' miserable, absurd self-importance is exemplified by statements such as that Israel will not allow shells to fall on the Galilee settlements again. Perhaps he meant the shells that emptied the settlements of Qiryat Shemona and Nahariya of most of their settlers and which still continue to be vacant. These shells may have stopped after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. However, this halt is not due to Israel's strength or success in destroying Arab resistance. This is specifically due to the fact that the Israeli Army has become the target of Arab resistance in Lebanon. So why should the Arab resistance men go to Galilee if they can destroy Israeli soldiers and tanks in Lebanon? This means that Israel has begun to drown in the depth of the Arab land. This is actually what is happening. When the Israeli presence in Lebanon moves southward, which is taking place now against Israel's wish, the Arab resistance will also move southward and shells will once again begin to fall on the Galilee settlements. Therefore, the issue does not depend soley on Israel's wishes.

The second statement that exemplified Peres' miserable, absurd self-importance is that Israel does not ask permission of anyone to enter or leave Lebanon. As far as entering, Israel asked for permission from the United States. The permission did not only mean U.S. approval, but also U.S. political, and military if needed, protection for the Israeli invasion.

As far as leaving, it may be true that Israel does not need permission to leave if we understand this in realistic terms. The fact is that the Lebanese resistance rifles do not issue permits for leaving, but create a situation that Israel cannot bear and is therefore forced to leave. Naturally, compulsion does not need permission. Such compulsion means the Israeli forces' withdrawal and retreat from Lebanon.

Further on Resumption of Al-Naqurah Talks

Talks To Resume 24 January

TA221402 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1354 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The Israeli and Lebanese delegations to the Al-Naqurah talks will meet again on Thursday, 24 January. At that meeting, the Lebanese delegation will present its conditions for the handing over to the Lebanese Army the first area evacuated by the IDF. Members of the Israeli delegation told our military correspondent Gay Zohar that they see this development as a step in the right direction.

Response on Sidon Withdrawal Expected

TA221443 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] At the conclusion of today's Al-Naqurah session, Lebanon expressed its desire to coordinate with the IDF an orderly withdrawal from Sidon and the entry of its own soldiers to that area. The Lebanese delegation announced that the Lebanese Government will meet tomorrow to decide on several matters related to the IDF evacuation, and that the delegation will bring a detailed answer to Al-Naqurah in 2 days.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that there was a partial commerical strike in Sidon today, and that approximately 4,000 residents held a protest march to protest the attempt to murder Sunni leader Mustafa Sa'd, and shouted anti-Israeli catcalls.

22 January Session Summarized

TA221742 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The Israeli and Lebanese delegations will meet again in Al-Naqurah in 2 days. The Lebanese Army wants to coordinate its units' entry into the area that will be evacuated by the IDF with the IDF. Today, the IDF officers explained to the Lebanese delegation that as of 12 February, not a single IDF soldier will be in the Sidon area, and the Lebanese Government will be held responsible for anything that might happen there. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht has returned from Al-Naqurah:

[Begin recording] [Hecht] The Lebanese opened this morning's session with the rhetoric to which we have grown accustomed in the course of the past 12 meetings. They demanded that Lebanese sovereignty be honored, a timetable for a comprehensive IDF pullback, and the dismantling of the army of southern Lebanon. Brigadier General al-Hajj read the written statement out as though he had never heard about the Israeli Cabinet's decision to withdraw from Lebanon in stages. At least five times in the course of the first session, the Israeli officers explained to them: Dear Sirs, a decision was made in Jerusalem, and things are different. You are wasting your own time. You had 5 weeks to coordinate an orderly evacuation with us; now there are less than 4 weeks left.

As Lieutenant Colonel Yona Gazit put it:

[Gazit] We explained, and repeated it a number of times, that whatever happens, there will not be a single Israeli soldier in the area beyond 18 February, and that the moment the last Israeli soldier leaves the area, we will cease regarding ourselves as being responsible, in any way, for what happens in that area. Our sincere hope is that before this, the entire issue of the transfer of the area to their control will have been completed in a smooth fashion, and they could assume responsibility over the area the moment we leave it.

[Hecht] After 2 hours of deliberations, the head of the Israeli delegation, Brigadier General Gilbo'a, thought that some Lebanese officers have actually gotten the message.

[Gilbo'a] It will be in their own good, and will serve the population. It is better for them to coordinate this with us. But if they do not, this will be their problem, and the responsibility for anything that might occur after the evacuation will rest with them.

[Hecht] The Lebanese want to hold the next meeting as early as Thursday. All of a sudden they are in a hurry, Brig Gen Gilbo'a says.

[Gilbo'a] It may very well be that the outcome of this coordination will be practical arrangements that could turn out to be better than some piece of paper, but let us wait and see. [end recording]

Rabin, IDF Officers Tour Evacuation Area in Lebanon

TA221518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, accompanied by the chief of staff and the commander of the Northern Command, today toured the sector that the IDF is in the process of evacuating in southern Lebanon. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that a lot of equipment, prefabricated structures, water tanks, and other installations were removed today. The local commanders maintain that they will be able to meet the deadline, and may even complete the dismantling process before the time limit.

When redeployed along the new line, the IDF will operate out of permanent bases, but its activity will be mobile. If necessary, the IDF units will reenter the evacuated area to operate against terrorists. The army of southern Lebanon will leave the Sidon area together with the IDF.

Soldiers Remain in Sidon; Equipment Removed

TA230623 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 23 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent Hirsch Goodman]

[Excerpts] No Israeli forces have moved out of Sidon and the surrounding area, and none will be evacuated until February 18, senior military sources report. "We are moving equipment, but no men and nothing that we need to maintain a high operational capability," *THE JERUSALEM POST* was told last night.

The sources said that reports to the contrary were probably being circulated by parties interested in generating panic in the Sidon area, so as to make the last days of Israeli occupation as difficult as possible.

Israeli officers recently met with South Lebanese dignitaries and warned them against allowing elements hostile to Israel to gain power in their villages.

IDF To Patrol Evacuated Areas

TA230624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Israel plans to carry out security patrols after the first stage of its withdrawal in the areas it is vacating. This according to a senior Israel official speaking with reporter Jerry Cheslow who toured southern Lebanon yesterday:

[Begin recording] The IDF's withdrawal from the current lines will mean a shift in defense policy toward greater mobility in Lebanon. This was stated yesterday by a senior Israeli officer helping to plan the pullback.

The officer said that IDF forces will cross the lines when necessary into the areas now being evacuated by the IDF for patrols, but their bases would remain stationary behind the new lines. The officer said that the lines demand a more aggressive strategy because it lacks natural obstacles and its temporary nature will mean fewer fortifications.

The officer predicted an increase in attempts on IDF targets as the withdrawal date nears. The various factions, he said, would try to show that they were forcing Israel out.

For this reason, security on the roads in south Lebanon has been beefed up. Soldiers and half-tracks are posted at major junctions and obstacles have been placed on the roads to slow down possible saboteurs. All of this to ensure both the safety of the convoys moving south and that the pace of the withdrawal will not be slowed down. [end recording]

Syria Reported Opposing UNIFIL Redeployment

TA230520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] There is no progress in the contacts to deploy UNIFIL in areas to be evacuated by the IDF in Lebanon. This became apparent during the talks held in Jerusalem by Jean-Claude Aime with Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche.

Our political correspondent reports that Syria told the UN representative it is not encouraging the Lebanese Government to agree to a UNIFIL deployment in the Sidon area. Sources in Jerusalem believe that Syria prefers to have the IDF remain exposed to Shi'ite terrorism rather than consolidate an arrangement.

Jean-Claude Aime will travel today to Beirut.

Jerusalem Sees USSR Behind Poland's Lebanese Proposal

TA221122 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 22 Jan 85 p 8

[Report by political correspondent Refa'el Mann]

[Text] In the UN Security Council, the Soviet Union may make its agreement to UNIFIL's deployment in IDF-evacuated areas conditional on the participation of Eastern bloc army units in the UN force. This assessment was made yesterday by Jerusalem political elements, in the wake of Poland's suggestion that Polish units be sent to UNIFIL.

Jerusalem believes that Poland's proposal to participate in the UN force in Lebanon results from a Soviet initiative, in preparation for possible discussions on a renewed mandate for the UN force, if Lebanon agrees to its deployment in areas which will be evacuated by the IDF in the coming months.

The proposal has triggered a great deal of interest among political elements in Jerusalem who view this as an indication of the Soviets' desire to get their "foot in the door" in Lebanon, within the UNIFIL framework. As for Poland's possible participation in UNIFIL, Jerusalem notes that in the past, Israel opposed the participation in the UN force of units from countries which do not maintain diplomatic relations with Israel.

Officers, Soldiers Support Shamir on Withdrawal

TA221155 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 22 Jan 85 p 3

[Report by Ya'ir 'Amiqam]

[Text] Seventy officers and soldiers who finished their month-long reserve service in Lebanon sent a petition to Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in which they support his opposition to the IDF withdrawal as decided in the Cabinet. In their petition, the unit's officers and soldiers wrote that they too "want to step up defense for the Galilee settlements, but this should be done by keeping the IDF in Lebanon for as long as this is necessary."

Defense Source Releases IDF Casualty Data

TA220813 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by defense correspondent Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv — Three hundred and seventy-six soldiers have been killed in Israel since the war in Lebanon began in June 1982. In the past eight months alone, more than 2,000 soldiers have become disabled after injuries in Lebanon and Israel. These figures were released yesterday by a defense-establishment source.

The source reported that the number of soldiers killed since the start of the war in Lebanon reached 986 by December 31. That brought to 15,632 the number of security personnel killed since the state was established.

According to the source, the list of disabled soldiers grew by 2,159 between April 1 and December 31, 1984.

These figures for the dead and wounded include casualties resulting from enemy action in Lebanon, and people killed or hurt in training accidents, road accidents, or by self-inflicted injuries in Israel and in Lebanon.

By December 31, the ministry's rehabilitation branch was helping 46,941 people, including 12,668 with a disability of less than 10 percent. Since the war in Lebanon began 4,932, soldiers have been added to the list of those with disabilities of over 10 percent.

As a result, in less than three years the number of people requiring the branch's services has increased by 17.9 percent. During the current fiscal year, these services have cost the ministry IS63 billion, or 5 percent of the defence budget.

Lubrani Favors Deployment on 'Katyusha Line'

TA221151 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 22 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by Gad Becker and Eytan Haber]

[Excerpts] "One should take into account the possibility that the Shi'ites will launch katyushas on the Galilee settlements." This warning was issued yesterday by Uri Lubrani, the coordinator of activities in Lebanon, before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. This was part of a surprising speech delivered by Lubrani who explained why the government made a mistake in deciding on a phased withdrawal to the international border.

In clear contradiction to the positions of the IDF General Staff and the defense minister, Lubrani stated that "we should not go south of the katyusha line, which is about 20 to 25 km away from the international border."

Even after the withdrawal is completed, Lubrani warned, the friction between Israel and the Shi'ites in Lebanon will not stop. "We will have to deal only with them," he said.

Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, in contrast, repeated his absolute support for the government's decision. "I totally reject any possibility of remaining on an interim line for a long time," he clarified, "I do not see any advantage to it." The chief of staff rejected the parallel drawn between presence on the Jordan River line and its contribution to Israel's security, on the one hand, and deployment along the Al-Awwali River and its implications for peace in the Galilee, on the other.

What are the immediate risks posed by the terrorists to the northern border? Experts explain that most of the Palestinian terrorists, about 8,000, are today concentrated in northern Lebanon and in Beirut, a long way from the Israeli border. A feeling of failure is still prevalent among 'Arafat's supporters who were defeated both by the IDF and the rejectionist fronts, and they are unprepared for any anti-Israeli activity.

There are about 120,000 Palestinians in southern Lebanon, and there is no doubt that there is a large number of terrorists among them, including people released from the Ansar camp. However, they are "dormant" at this stage, and it seems they will resurface only after the IDF withdrawal.

The real problem today is the Shi'ite problem. The Shi'ites are the ones responsible for the anti-Israeli terrorist acts in Lebanon — some in return for money — and it is hoped in the defense establishment that following the withdrawal, their motivation to continue with the terrorist acts will diminish.

Peres Addresses Knesset Committee on Withdrawal

TA221449 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told the members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that the decision on a phased withdrawal from Lebanon was the recommendation of all the defense establishment components, and was founded on sound political logic. The phased withdrawal will grant the IDF more peace and the possibility to reorganize for training. The decision has retrieved the option to initiate moves to Israel; the Syrians and the Lebanese were surprised by it.

Likud Knesset Members [MK] David Magen, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, and Pesah Grupper attacked the withdrawal decision, contending that it can be construed to signify retreat. The prime minister responded and said that they ought to be more modest, reminding them that some previous assessments of the committee members were later found to be wrong, such as the assumption that it would be possible to make peace with Lebanon.

Replying to questions on Tabah, the prime minister said that an agreement could be reached during the Beersheba talks on an MFO presence in Tabah, and the roles it will have to fulfill; as well as on the future of Canada refugee camp in Rafah.

Reacting to the prime minister's remarks that it would be advisable to conduct the Tabah negotiations in a good atmosphere, MK David Magen said that a good atmosphere might make others hungry for more. Mr Peres replied by saying that those who evacuated the Sinai, Yamit, and the Rafah approaches had better keep still on developing others' appetite.

Peres on Defense Following Redeployment

TA230619 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 23 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by Aaron Sittner]

[Excerpts] The withdrawal from Lebanon in stages affords the Israel Defence Forces "more tranquillity, a better opportunity to organize, and superior conditions for training," Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee yesterday.

On the security of the Galilee, Peres reiterated that Israel reserves the right to respond to any attack upon it, to continue

overflights over Lebanon, and to the stationing of Gen Antoine Lahd's south Lebanon army forces in zones deemed to be vital for Israel security.

As for the stationing of UNIFIL troops in areas vacated by the IDF, Peres believes the decision on such a move "lies solely with the Syrians."

Knesset Committee To Vote on Withdrawal

TA221436 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1354 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] On 28 January, the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee will vote on the Cabinet's decision to withdraw from southern Lebanon in phases. The committee has so far devoted three sessions to this subject, in which it was briefed by the prime minister, the defense minister, and the chief of staff and IDF commanders. Our correspondent Ilana Dayan has learned that the initiative to hold a ballot came from Knesset Member David Magen, in a bid to prove that the majority of the Likud members are united in their opposition to a withdrawal from Lebanon.

Arens on Withdrawal From Lebanon, Egypt, USSR

TA191026 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 19 Jan 85

["Weekly Newsreel" interview with Minister Moshe Arens by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer "near Vice Prime Minister Shamir's office"; date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Schiffer] Professor Arens, you are quoted as being the one who called the plan presented by the defense establishment, and finally accepted by the Cabinet, as a dangerous gamble which does not bring security to the Israeli northern settlements.

[Arens] First, I will neither verify nor deny that quote. The discussion about the withdrawal from Lebanon was held by the Cabinet sitting as the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs. As a result, everything said in that meeting is a state secret and must not be leaked or quoted. Therefore, I cannot address myself to quotes which were or were not said by me or others. The subject was a difficult one; naturally, the debate was very serious, and this emphasizes the many uncertainties. A decision was made, though, and what we are left to do today is try to implement it as best we can.

[Schiffer] Still, how do you answer the contention to the effect that we ourselves have created a new enemy — the Shi'ites — and that the withdrawal from Lebanon to the internationalborder may be the only chance we have of not being pursued by this enemy?

[Arens] I do not agree with this. We may have lately witnessed the emergence of many experts on the Shi'ite community. I wish we had some experts on this complex issue. Let me emphasize, however, that the Shi'ite, known worldwide as the enemy of the State of Israel and the Jews, is Khomeyni, and many Shi'ites in Lebanon are inspired by him. Also Musa Sadr [a Shi'ite chairman of the Lebanese Supreme Shi'ite Islamic Council who disappeared in Libya in 1979] who was murdered by Al-Qadhdhafi a few years ago, was a clergyman who had arrived in Lebanon from Iran. Khomeyni's enmity for the State of Israel, the talks of him leading waves of Shi'ites to conquer Jerusalem — this did not begin with the Peace for Galilee Operation; Khomeyni declared his enmity years ago. As a result, all the radical elements in the Shi'ite community — there are such extremists, in Tehran, Iran, as well as in Lebanon — are inspired by Khomeyni and their source of hatred for Israel and the Jews has nothing to do with the IDF's presence in Lebanon.

[Schiffer] With your permission, this interview is now being held near the office of Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, and this week many political observers have again discussed Mr Shamir's leading ability, pointing to the fact that he was unable to unite the Likud ministers around a single view and decision on the Lebanese issue. Do you now view Yitzhaq Shamir as the Likud's leader, around which all party members should unite?

[Arens] I definitely view him as the Likud's leader; he was also elected as such, so this is not a personal assessment on my part. It is clear we should unite around him, and it is clear that this will promote the Likud's chances of playing its role in the national unity government now, and when he becomes prime minister in rotation with Peres.

I would however like to add a few words about the withdrawal decision and the degree of unity behind it. It is true that Shamir did not make an effort to impose his or the majority's opinion on the Likud. It seems to me that we all agreed to this. Of course, each would have preferred the Likud ministers to have voted as one. However, I too did not believe the majority's view should be imposed on the minority. In my opinion, everyone should have been allowed to decide according to his considered view, and this was the case. The matter in hand was not ideological; it was a matter which contains much uncertainty, a very important matter, and everyone should have been allowed to reason it out for himself. I was told this was not the case in the Alignment. I was told, for example, that Minister Mordekhay Gur was pressured into voting with the majority. Some may interpret this as a demonstration or evidence of Shim'on Peres' leadership. I nevertheless, do not interpret this as a proof of leadership. In my opinion, had I been able to influence the Alignment, I would have told it too: Let everyone vote according to his opinion; this has nothing to do with leadership.

[Schiffer] With your permission, let me touch on two political issues briefly. In the coming days, Israeli and Egyptian delegations will meet to discuss the entire issue of Taba. What approach should Israel adopt in everything pertaining to its relations with Egypt?

[Arens] Our approach to Egypt should be one of trying to bring about an improvement in relations and an implementation, of the letter and spirit of the peace treaty we signed. We paid a very dear price for this peace treaty. In fact, we transferred the entire Sinai, with its oil wells and bases, to Egypt; in return we received a piece of paper which was very important for us and meant normal relations, involving diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level. It cannot be said that the Egyptians abide by the peace agreement, but we definitely have. We transferred the entire Sinai to their hands, and the Egyptians have now come to

argue about an additional 400-meter coastal strip left beyond the enormous area transferred to them; their ambassador is no longer present in Israel; normal relations are not in practice. Moreover, we definitely see a tendency on their part to draw away from normal relations, from true peaceful relations with us.

[Schiffer] Would you have adopted a different attitude than that of Prime Minister Peres and Minister 'Ezer Weizman?

[Arens] I do not know. I would not say that the attitude of the prime minister or Weizman is different from that of others. After all, we are talking about the actions of the Israeli government. As I have said to you, I think it is worthwhile for us, now that we have paid the price of the ticket, to make every effort to reach the terminal — long-term, stable, and peaceful relations. It is worth our effort, for sure; but, judging from the facts, I am only stating that we do not believe that a comparable effort is being made by the other side and I regret this.

[Schiffer] In conclusion, we have recently heard of U.S.-Soviet talks. One subject under discussion is the possible promotion of the peace process in our region. In the coming period the convening of an international conference will arise on the agenda as one of the possibilities for continuing the process. Will you support such an approach?

[Arens] I think we should firmly oppose this. What are we talking about here, after all? We are talking about introducing the Soviet Union into the talks, the Middle East negotiations. I know, after all, that the attitude of the USSR toward the State of Israel is hostile; we do not even have diplomatic relations with them, since they have severed them. They are the ones who concocted a large number of the wars in the region. They are the ones who today equip the Arab armies with the most deadly weapons. They are the ones who closed the Soviet gates to Soviet Jewry and are today smothering 2.5 million Jews within their borders. Why should we incorporate them into the Middle East process? It is clear they will sabotage it; they will do everything they can to act against the interests of the State of Israel.

Shamir Raps Egyptian Media Treatment of Tabah

TA220815 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Asher Wallfish]

[Text] The Egyptian news media have exaggerated the Tabah issue out of all proportion, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said yesterday, stressing that the Tabah zone issue was only a tiny one by comparison with Israel's return of Sinai to Egypt.

Shamir told three Irish parliamentarians, who are here on a six-day visit, that while Israel and Egypt still had to reach agreement on 15 points relating to the international border, the Egyptian news media have singled out Tabah to make a fuss about "because there happens to be a hotel there."

The visitors said that Ireland and the Arab states had many common economic interests, but there was no reason why this fact should affect the good relations between Ireland and Israel.

Ireland had no resident ambassador in Tel Aviv only because it could not afford the outlay, they said. It had very few overseas embassies, they added. (The Irish ambassador in Rome is accredited to Israel.)

The delegation consists of two deputies, Gerry Collins (Fianna Fail) and Hugh Coveney (Fine Gael), and their wives, and Senator Catherine McGuiness (Independent).

Foreign Ministry Expects Conciliation in Tabah Talks

TA221839 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Egypt is persisting in its demand that Tabah be returned under full Egyptian sovereignty. It will raise this demand at the talks to be held in Beersheba on 27 January, and if Israel refuses, it will request that the matter be submitted to international arbitration. This was said by Egypt's Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali in an interview in the *AL-DUSTUR* paper in Amman.

The stand of the Israeli Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem is that, according to the peace agreement, attempts toward conciliation must first be pursued.

Peres Sends Mubarak Message on Lebanon

TA230531 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The prime minister has sent a message to Egypt's president in which he explained Israel's decision for a phased withdrawal from Lebanon. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that the message was conveyed by Israel's ambassador in Cairo after Lebanon's president secretly asked President Mubarak to consolidate an agreement with Israel. Political sources in Jerusalem believe that the prime minister also sent the message to facilitate a summit meeting with Mubarak within a short period.

Jerusalem has expressed disappointment about the fact that Egypt is making it difficult for Israel to participate in the International Book Fair in Cairo. The management of the fair closed it [as heard] to visitors, and Israel was asked to present to the fair's management a copy of each book it wants to display.

Sason on Cairo Book Fair; Call To Boycott

TA221240 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1150 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The International Book Fair opened today in Cairo, and after 2 years of absence, Israel is participating in it. Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali opened the fair this morning and visited the Israeli pavilion a short time ago. Israel's ambassador in Cairo, Moshe Sason, was among those present. Our

Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a interviewed the ambassador a short time ago in a telephone conversation:

[Begin recording] [Barne'a] Mr Ambassador, you have just returned from the opening ceremony of the International Book Fair in Cairo. How do you asses Israel's renewed participation in this large fair?

[Sason] Well, in this regard we returned to a situation deemed normal for two countries maintaining peaceful relations. As you know, there are 49 countries participating in this fair. Approximately 23 publishing houses are participating in the Israeli pavilion, publishing houses for Arab books. Altogether some 450 to 500 books are being displayed.

[Barne'a] How was the opening ceremony?

[Sason] The ceremony was typical for such an occasion — dignified and beautiful. Many guests participated in this ceremony, among them some of the ambassadors of the participating countries, though not all of them. The fair was opened by the prime minister and his entourage. He visited, obviously, the pavilions, and among them our pavilison, where I received him. He was accompanied by Muhammad Radwan, minister of state for culture, Mustafa Hilmi, deputy prime minister for public services, the directors of the fair, etcetera. There were many television crews at the site. It was very beautiful and dignified.

[Barne'a] I understand that the Journalists Association and Attorneys Association in Egypt opened a rival fair due to Israel's participation.

[Sason] Yes, this is what I read in the opposition's press, which also called for a boycott of our pavilion. I must tell you, however, that from my visit today, I cannot feel the effects of this call. I also want to add a word in praise of the manager of the Israeli pavilion, (Beni Pinto), who did a very good job.

[Barne'a] Does the fact that the PLO is also participating in the fair pose any problem?

[Sason] It does not pose any problem for me. We are participating in a book fair taking place in Egypt and prepared by the Egyptians. Our pavilion is there, and the other considerations do not interest me. [end recording]

Government Denies Link With Car Explosion in Sidon

TA221447 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1355 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Israel denies having had anything to do with the booby-trapped car which yesterday exploded in Sidon. The Foreign Ministry spokesman said at a briefing to foreign correspondents that the irresponsible statements by Lebanon's prime minister are a lie in a bid to incite the tempers on the eve of the IDF's withdrawal.

The Sunni leader in Sidon, Mustafa Sa'd, was wounded in yesterday's explosion of the booby-trapped car.

Hindering Sa'd Evacuation Denied

TA221739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The Sunni leader, Mustafa Sa'd, who was seriously wounded yesterday when a booby-trapped car exploded near his home, was admitted to a Paris hospital today. He was flown to France on board a special aircraft. Israel has denied the charge that it had prevented the evacuation of Sa'd from the scene of the explosion. Authoritative sources have told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that the IDF even allowed a UN helicopter to land at the site and evacuate Sa'd to Beirut.

Peres: Economy Can Be Healed in 12-18 Months

TA181119 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 18 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by Orli Azulay-Katz]

[Excerpt] At the meeting of the Labor Party Center, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres spoke about the economic situation. "We are at the peak of negotiations for a new socioeconomic agreement," he said. "Altogether, the workers will not be hurt. I suggest we stop threatening and making frightening and pessimistic predictions. The economic situation can be healed in a year to 18 months. The sacrifice will be difficult, but not unbearable. If we have to choose between the dismissal of workers and the lowering of salaries for a certain period of time, I will try to convince people to lower salaries and avoid dismissals."

The prime minister noted that last month the Cabinet had been faced with difficult decisions. The first was on the issue of immigration; Peres did not go into detail.

The second decision, the prime minister said, was on the issue of Lebanon. "I am happy that the decision was not partisan," he pointed out. "Not one of us thought it was necessary to stay in Lebanon forever. The question was when to leave."

The Cabinet does not intend to abandon Galilee, the prime minister declared, "but the system of defense will be different."

Finance Minister on Price Increases, Package Deal

TA181149 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Interview with Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i by economic affairs correspondent Moshe Gal; place and time not given — recorded]

[Text] [Gal] Can we expect increases in the price of other commodities — such as electricity and water — in the near future, as a result of yesterday's increase in the price of fuel?

[Moda'i] No. The increase in fuel prices was done with the agreement of the parties to the package deal. At present, the parties are willing to absorb these increases, so that they will not affect the consumer.

[Gal] If so, can it be said that another price increase is not expected — at least until the end of the package deal on 5 February — and the public buying spree can be placated?

[Moda'i] We do not expect a drastic price increase -- in fact, almost no increase — during the package deal period, except for the price of cars which we increased for obvious reasons —the cars were sold at prices below their real cost. I am not talking about prices elsewhere, because we froze the exchange rate regarding customs payments, which are very heavy on cars. Moreover, after the package deal period, we do not foresee any drastic price increases. That is the aim of all these discussions.

[Gal] If you have already allowed for a higher import tax on cars, why do you not increase the tax on other imported goods, so that the state will stop subsidizing imports to consumers?

[Moda'i] It should be clear that with regard to imported goods, the next package deal cannot be based on the exchange rate frozen at the beginning of the first package deal. Nonetheless, according to our calculations, we will still only be talking about very moderate price increases.

[Gal] If so, should we expect price increases on the rest of the imported goods in the coming days?

[Moda'i] The answer is no. We will not increase the prices of imported goods during the first package deal period, because this requires the agreement of all the parties. For example, the importers — who are part of the employers' umbrella organization bureau — are not prepared to accept this.

[Gal] Will you agree to the Histadrut's demand regarding the continuation of the compensation or tax benefit of 5 percent during the new package deal period as well?

[Moda'i] No. At the moment, the Histadrut has not stipulated such a condition. A condition exists by which we should compensate for the real expenditure which will result from any reduction in the rate of subsidies.

[Gal] Will this be full compensation or will you ask the Histadrut to reduce the percentage of the shekel compensation to be given?

[Moda'i] We will give full compensation for those daily consumption commodities on which subsidies will be reduced.

[Gal] Let us clarify this point. Can the public at present be assured that the prices of subsidized goods will not be increased during the period of the deal?

[Moda'i] Yes, that is part of the package deal. If this restriction did not exist, I admit I would already have increased the prices of subsidized goods at the beginning of the deal.

[Gal] During the past week you were criticized by the parties to the package deal — both by the Histadrut and the industrialists — on the stand you adopted during the negotiations. Some also claimed that you are not interested in a deal, because it may limit you in taking drastic economic steps which, in your opinion, are essential. Is this really so?

[Moda'i] My reaction is that the claims are accurate. Everyone now understands that had we not included the subsidies in the first package deal, the state of the economy and, as a result, the state of the marathon talks we are now holding, would have been totally different. This issue of getting rid of the subsidies we accumulated during the package deal period has perhaps been one of the main problems in all our talks. Regarding other restrictions, the government will never relinquish issues dealing with the capital market — that is, the exchange rate and the interest rate. These must be left for the government to consider, according to the way in which matters develop.

No Decision on Budget Reached at Cabinet Session

TA201316 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The Cabinet session ended about an hour ago, but no decisions on the budget were adopted. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the ministers debated the finance minister's proposed budget of $23 billion — $1 billion less than the actual current budget.

Bank of Israel: Recession Worsening

TA220817 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by the finance correspondent]

[Text] The economic recession that began in late 1983 is steadily getting worse. Activity is falling in industry and trade, output and sales are dropping, and unemployment is increasing. The rise in exports is helping to offset the slump in local orders, but by itself cannot turn the tide. Bankruptcies loom as firms are being forced to take out further loans despite their reduced activity.

These trends emerge from the quarterly corporate survey published yesterday by the Bank of Israel.

Progress Reported in Package Deal Talks

TA230547 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The partners to the package deal will meet again this afternoon after meeting for 6 hours last night. Agreement was reached on one issue — price increases during the interim period preceding the new package deal will not exceed 5 percent on the average. Following the transition, there will probably be increases averaging 3 percent. Differences of opinion remain on all the other issues.

However, Economics and Planning Minister Gad Ya'aqobi and Chairman of the Manufacturers' Association Eli Hurvitz told our economic affairs correspondent that progress has been made on some important issues.

Free Trade Agreement With U.S. Under Way
TA230616 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 23 Jan 85 p 2

[Report from Washington by Wolf Blitzer]

[Excerpt] Washington — U.S. and Israeli negotiators are said to have virtually wrapped up all the loose ends of their free trade area agreement. During intensive discussions in Washington these past two weeks, the two sides have reportedly compromised on all the major issues standing in the way of an agreement.

American and Israeli officials said Israel agreed to compromise on removing its governmental subsidies to export industries, while the U.S. is now prepared to ease its protection of the American textile industry.

Agricultural Agreement Signed With West Germany
TA230744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpts] An agricultural cooperation agreement between Israel and West Germany was signed in Bonn yesterday. Our agriculture minister participated in the ceremony in which the agreement was signed. Our correspondent David Witzthum reports on the status of Israeli agriculture in Europe:

[Begin recording] Arye Nehamkin [Israeli agriculture minister] and Ignaz Kieschle [West German minister of food, agriculture, and forestry] are satisfied. This is a formal agreement, the essence of which is the coordination of positions regarding agricultural issues. Sources close to the subject say that this agreement is of little importance, and the satisfaction expressed at the meeting is rather the result of the heavy winter in Europe, which is allowing Israeli agricultural exports to Europe at good prices and under excellent competitive conditions, and enabling the Israeli exporters to prove their efficiency by using new transportation and marketing methods which are meeting the European demand during these cold days.

During the signing ceremony, the German minister for agriculture promised to do his best to also help Israeli agriculture in the future, during the difficult contacts expected to take place between the EEC and the farmers of Spain and Portugal, which will join the EEC next year. However, he avoided a clear-cut commitment. He emphasized to me that he was not the only person in the EEC, and the current success of the Israeli agricultural exports is not necessarily a sign for the future. [end recording]

Visit by U.S. Jewish Leaders to Jordan Postponed
TA200534 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The visit by U.S. Jewish leaders to Jordan and their meeting with King Husayn have been postponed indefinitely. Jordan has announced that for the time being the visit of the Jewish leaders cannot take place. No new date has been set, but the leader of the Jewish group said she hopes this is merely a postponement and not a cancellation of the visit.

Zaire's Mobutu To Visit in Approximately 2 Months
TA230536 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko will visit Israel in approximately 2 months. The visit had been postponed several times, and now it has been suggested that Mobutu visit Egypt as well.

Chilean Air Force Delegation Arrives on Visit
TA230628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] A delegation from the Chilean Air Force Academy is in the country at the invitation of the Israeli Air Force. The delegation, including the head of Chile's Air Force Academy, will tour Air Force installations during the 1-week stay.

Fatah Wins Elections in West Bank, East Jerusalem
TA211009 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Jan 85 p 3

[Report by the West Bank correspondent]

[Text] Fatah supporters won two internal election campaigns held at the end of last week in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. In the Bi'r Zayt University student council election, Fatah supporters (those who support 'Arafat's faction) have defeated their left-wing and right-wing rivals, the rejectionist front, and the Muslim Brotherhood, and won all seats on the council.

In the East Jerusalem electric corporation workers council election, the main faction of the PLO won most seats, and the former head of the council, 'Abd Abu Dhiyab, has been reelected. Over the last few years, 'Abd Abu Dhiyab has been under house arrest during the night, and security sources have prohibited him from entering the West Bank. He is a resident of Dayr Abu Tur in East Jerusalem. The Fatah victory in the elections held by Bi'r Zayt University and the electric corporation (the largest Arab company in East Jerusalem which employs hundreds of workers) confirms the assumption recently prevailing in the West Bank that West Bank residents support the main faction of the PLO which is led by 'Arafat.

Fourth OATUU Congress Opens in Lagos

AB211653 Lagos NAN in English 1638 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 21 (NAN) — The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, today in Lagos stressed that the salvation of African people lay in their own hands.

In a speech at the fourth congress of the Organisation of Africa Trade Union Unity (OATUU), Maj Gen Buhari said "African countries cannot afford to depend, as they now do, on imporation of a significant proportion of their food items." With the vast land resources in the continent, African countries must endeavour to boost food production to accelerate the achievement of self-sufficiency in food, the head of state said.

In the speech, read by the minister of employment, labour and productivity, Maj Gen Solomon Omojokun, the head of state urged OATUU to encourage national trade unions to adopt postures that would create an atmosphere to foster the increase in productivity by African workers.

Maj Gen Buhari said that OATUU had the capability to achieve its aims and objectives creditably. "The OATUU should not allow the destabilising activities of detractors to distract it from the pursuit of its goals," the head of state said. He urged the organisation to review the practice of making the financial burden of hosting the congress "fall squarely on the shoulders of the host country." He suggested that the meetings of the congress be held at the organisation's headquarters in Accra or at the OAU Secretariat in Addis Ababa.

In an address, the president of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), Alhaji Ali Chiroma, observed that Africa was afflicted by two major disasters, starvation and debt problem. He noted that Africa had replaced Asia as the major recipient of food aid and called on African countries to contribute to the fund established by the OAU to aid drought victims in Ethiopia. He condemned the conditions imposed by IMF on loans and urged African countries to reject them. He said that they were against the interest of Africans. Alhaji Ali said that African countries were knee-deep in economic recession and blamed the situation on "poor, corrupt, insensitive and irresponsible political leadership."

The president of OATUU, Mr Ali Nefishy of Libya, urged African workers "to wage a war against the dubious intentions of foreign countries." He stressed the need for African workers to be united in fighting for the political and economic emancipation of the continent.

The conference, which will last four days, is being attended by more than 200 delegates from 51 countries, regional and international labour organisations.

PANA Committee Notes 'Serious' Financial Problems

AB200920 Dakar PANA in English 1355 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Dakar, 19 Jan (PANA) — The fifth session of the PANA Finance Committee, opened Monday in Dakar, ended yesterday "expressing satisfaction at the good management of the accounts of the agency".

A report adopted by the committee stressed "the strict measures adopted by the Secretariat with regard to the utilization of funds placed at the disposal of PANA". The committee welcomed the director general's intention to "present for the next financial year (1986-1987) a budget whose total expenditure will be the same as that of the present financial year (1984-1985)."

This wish expressed by the director general, according to the committee, will enable the agency to find a solution to the problem of inflation that has "reduced the purchasing power of resources expected" by PANA which at the same time is expected to develop its services and increase its productions.

The committee however noted that despite the good management of resources, the agency is facing serious problems due to "the slow rate of contributions from some member states". While lauding the efforts exerted by President Abdou Diouf of Senegal towards speeding up the payment of contributions by member states to the agency, the committee drew the attention of members to the persistent discrepancy existing between "PANA's actual income and income budgeted".

This "financial gap", the committee pointed out, poses many problems, the most serious being "the near inability to recruit on a permanent basis the personnel required for the proper running of the agency for the fear of not being able to ensure payment of their salaries and indemnities".

Contributions from member states constitute 93 percent of the agency's budget which amounts to 3,327,817 dollars for the current financial year. So far, only 1,530,708.8 dollars were received. The committee also recommended that the director general "revise the PANA staff rules and regulations in line with the policy of austerity imposed by the need to make maximum use of scarge resources".

It therefore called on the director general to prepare for submission to the inter-governmental council a number of documents including a draft staff regulations, salary scales, recruitment and payment policy involving payment of indemnities and a manpower management policy.

The committee, whose mandate ends shortly, is made up of: Algerian, Cameroon, Ghana, Mozambique, Senegal, and representative of the OAU.

ALGERIA

Saudi Crown Prince Arrives in Algiers

LD221757 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1520 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Algiers, 22 Jan (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, arrived in Algiers today on an official visit to the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria at the invitation of President Chadli Bendjedid. The Algerian prime minister, Abdelhamid Ibrahimi, and other officials welcomed Prince 'Abdallah at the Algiers airport.

The crown prince is accompanied by a delegation including the minister of health, Faysal al-Hujaylan; the minister of industry and electricity, Engineer 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Zamil; deputy commander of the National Guard, 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri; head of the Office of the Crown Prince, Nasir al-Rajihi; Prince Turki ibn 'Abdallah ibn Muhammad al Saud, adviser at the Office of the Crown Prince; 'Abd al-Muhsin ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri, adviser at the Office of the Crown Prince; and Hamad ibn Salih al-Humudi, head of the crown prince's private affairs section.

Foreign Minister Holds Talks With Iranian Delegation

LD201430 Tehran IRNA in English 1415 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan 20, IRNA — Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, who is visiting Algeria at the head of a delegation, met with Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and presented him a written message from his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akhbar Velayati, Saturday. During the meeting, the two sides discussed mutual ties and the situation in the Middle East and northern Africa.

Outlining the regional situation and plots of imperialist powers led by the United States, Sheykh ol-Eslam urged Muslim and progressive countries to fight against American and Zionist conspiracies. The Algerian minister, referring to the excellent relations that exist between the two countries, called for further cooperation among Islamic and progressive states.

The Iranian delegation also met with the Algerian deputy foreign minister and discussed matters of mutual interest.

Senegal's Diouf Sends Message to President

AB191312 Paris AFP in French 0915 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Algiers, 19 Jan (AFP) — Cheikh Hamidou Kane, Senegalese minister of planning and cooperation, arrived in Algiers yesterday with a message from Senegalese President Abdou Diouf to Algerian head of state Chadli Bendjedid, according to an official source. Both the Algerian and the Senegalese sides observed total discretion on the contents of the message.

However, a Senegalese source indicated that during his visit, Cheikh Hamidou Kane will examine with Algerian officials some economic projects in Senegal, notably in the field of road communications in an effort to break the land-locked situation of certain regions in that country.

However, observers note that last Thursday President Diouf sent El-Hadj Djily Mbaye to Marrakech where he was received by Moroccan King Hassan II who was with his principal political advisers, Ahmed Guedira, Ahmed Bensouda, and Mohamed Aouad.

During his last visit to Algiers in October 1983, President Diouf had called for the continuation of efforts within the OAU toward a "just and equitable" settlement of the 10-year Western Sahara conflict between Morocco and the Polisario Front. On this occasion he had reaffirmed his country's position which upholds the "Saharan people's right to self-determination."

Algiers: Messaadia Receives PLO Officials 21 Jan

LD212022 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The head of the Central Committee Permanent secretariat, Cherif Messaadia, this morning received Abu Mazin, [Mahmud 'Abbas] member of the Fatah Central Committee and the PLO Executive Committee.

Cherif Messaadia also received Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, deputy secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Messaadia and his guests exchanged views on the issues pertaining to the Arab cause in general, and the Palestinian cause in particular.

APS Reports Algerian, Tunisian Cooperation Talks

LD221104 Algiers APS in English 1023 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Tunisia, 22-01-85 (APS) — The Algero-Tunisian cultural talks started on Monday here under the chairmanship of Mr Abdelmadjid Mezian, minister of culture in presence of members of the two respective delegations and the charge d'affaires of Algerian Embassy in Tunisia. Talks were focused on means to reinforce and to step up cultural cooperation for the year 1986 and in favor of the visit Mr Abdelmadjid Mezian is making in Tunisia.

After welcoming his Algerian guest, the Tunisian minister of culture expressed his preparedness to reinforce increasingly the common cultural action, notably in the field of cinema edition [as received] and music.

The least we can do, in the international cultural conjuncture which is sometimes favorable and often hostile is to achieve a common cultural unity and to see to it to safeguard our peoples cultures, the minister underlined and insisted especially on the necessity as Arabs and Maghrebians to unify the common potentialities and to work towards conferring to Algero-Tunisian cooperation useful and deep dimensions for the rising generations, he concluded.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives PDRY Foreign Minister

LD222052 Tripoli JANA in English 1813 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Awal 31, January 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution today 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali the South Yemeni minister of foreign affairs.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Arrives for 'Consultations'

LD221516 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Tunisian Foreign Minsiter Beji Caid Essebsi arrived in Tripoli this morning on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah accompanied by a Libyan delegation.

In an arrival statement at the Tripoli international airport, Essebsi said: I bring with me a message to the brother commander of the revolution from President Habib Bourguiba concerning current conditions in the Arab area and the Arab people's aspirations, as well as the joint work for the unity of the Arab Maghreb which demands further consultation and coordination.

This visit, he said, falls within the framework of consultations between the two fraternal countries for bolstering the distinguished relations between the two fraternal peoples of Tunisia and Jamahiriyah, in implementing the decisions and recommendations of the joint supreme Tunisian-Libyan Committee.

In conclusion, Beji Caid Essebsi expressed his satisfaction on the development of relations between the Jamahiriyah and Tunisia, affirming the importance of working for the aspirations of the two fraternal peoples.

Meets With Al-Qadhdhafi

LD222050 Tripoli JANA in English 1812 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Awal 3, January 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received today Beji Caid Essebsi, the Tunisian minister of foreign affairs who handed him a letter from President Habib Bourguiba.

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD230018 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi yesterday [22 January] carried out a special task entrusted to him by President Habib Bourguiba with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who received him at his residence in Sidra in the Bay of Sidra, 400 km east of Tripoli.

After the meeting, which lasted for 1 and 1/4 hours, Beji Caid Essebsi stated: I met with His Excellency Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and gave him a message from the great fighter, President Habib Bourguiba. The meeting was an occasion for exchanging viewpoints on the excellent bilateral relations between Tunisia and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and bilateral cooperation in light of the work of the Tunisia-Libyan joint committee which met in Tunis on 26 December.

We also reviewed the regional situation and the prospects of joint action which is aimed at giving an impetus to the idea of building the Greater Arab Maghreb and toward the desired aim in response to the aspirations of our nations and in serving their higher interests.

Beji Caid Essebsi said that his excellency the colonel gave him a message of friendship and esteem to the great fighter, and asked him to convey the views of his excellency on all matters that had been raised. He also asked him to convey his good wishes for the continued good health of his excellency the president.

Concerning efforts to hold a Maghreb summit, the foreign minister said that the summit is not an aim in itself. The important thing is to secure conditions of constructive and earnest dialogue between the leaderships of all the states of the area and to destroy all obstacles to our blessed march toward realizing the Greater Arab Maghreb. We hope that this dialogue will end with a summit that brings together the leaders of all the states of the area, because what we have in common is greater than what divides us.

After his official mission the foreign minister returned to Tunis. He was seen off in Sidra by Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, and he was seen off at the Tripoli airport by Tunisia's general representative in the Jamahiriyah.

Gambian President Ends 3-day Visit to Tripoli

LD221721 Tripoli JANA in English 1455 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, 3 Jumada Awal, 22 Jan, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Dawda Jawara, president of the Republic of Gambia and accompanying delegation left Tripoli early today following a three-day visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

President Jawara was seen off at Tripoli airport by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, some members of the General People's Committee, heads of diplomatic missions to the Jamahiriyah and several officers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces.

Commentary on Reagan's Inauguration, Arms Policy

LD221727 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Speaking on the occasion of his assumption of the presidency for a second term of office, U.S. President Ronald Reagan reaffirmed that he will continue to build outer space nuclear weapons. He said that he will carry out his program in this regard and that the United States will have destructive nuclear weapons in outerspace. Here are more details:

U.S. President Ronald Reagan, when he won the 1981 American presidential elections, openly revealed his tendency toward space armament. He said that he would not negotiate with the USSR on nuclear arms race until the U.S. Government had attained a tangible supremacy in this field.

Following this announcement, Reagan halted operation of and even abrogated some treaties which had been signed by past presidents. He also began to implement the intensive strategic military programs, including the so-called star wars programs which includes the production of 100 MX missiles and 100 B1 bombers. He began to deploy long-range missiles in some West European countries in accordance with a NATO decision made in 1979 in order to speed up the achievement of the maximum possible supremacy which would enable the United States to preserve the successes it had scored in this field before entering into direct talks with the USSR.

In 1983, the U.S. President took yet another step in this direction. He made a speech in which he announced his destructive plan for an outerspace arms race, which will increase the means for total destruction of the earth. He placed $3 billion at the disposal of the U.S. Defense Department to finance the program in contravention of the treaty signed by the United States in 1972, which defines types of missiles and other nuclear weapons; in contravention of the UN resolutions and conventions which ban the use of such weapons; the Helsinki Agreement of 1975; the treaty banning nuclear tests in outer space and in the seas; and other agreements of this type.

MAURITANIA

Agricultural Agreement Signed With Japan

AB201230 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, CMSN member and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, yesterday signed a financial agreement with the Japanese ambassador accredited to Nouakchott in the hydroagricultural field. According to this agreement, Japan pledges to supply Mauritania with agricultural equipment, at a cost of 57 million ouguiyas.

MOROCCO

Main Opposition Party To Remain Outside Government

LD222346 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1352 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Rabat, 22 Jan (KUNA) — Abderrahim Bouabid, secretary-general of the USFP [Socialist Union of Popular Forces], Morocco's main opposition party, announced that his party will remain in the opposition.

In a speech he made to the [party] Central Committee which was published today by *AL-ITTIHAD AL-ISHTIRAKI*, he said we are in the opposition and every ambiguity has ended. This unequivocal statement has officially confirmed that the main opposition party will not enter the government which is expected to be announced at any minute.

It is clear that the new financial law, which the House of Representatives ratified, forced the opposition party to adopt this position. Bouabid severely attacked this law which he said was made to satisfy the IMF at the expense of the requirements of the national economy and the basic needs of the masses. The IMF has asked Morocco to adopt a policy of austerity as a condition for future IMF loans to that country.

Bouabid criticized what he called the liquidation of the public sector, asserting that this will be disasterous for the national economy, including the private sector.

Bouabid called for publishing the governmental report on the situation of the public and semi-public sectors. He called for purifying Morocco's political atmosphere by releasing all political detainees, lifting all oppressive measures against the trade unionists, and adopting a real democracy.

Regarding the situation in the Arab Maghreb, Bouabid put the responsibility for the deterioration in the situation and the failure of the summit on the shoulders of Algeria.

He revealed a Moroccan proposal to establish a confederation between Algeria and Morocco, which was presented by Morocco in July 1984, before the Oujda treaty. Bouabid termed the situation grave, stressing that all diplomatic contacts have not yet brought about any political solution.

Bouabid called on Mauritania to adopt a neutral policy, stressing that this will have positive results for the region. He renewed Morocco's commitment to the Oujda treaty with Libya which eatablished the Moroccan-Libyan union, pointing out his country's wish to extend the substance of that treaty to include the countries of the Arab Maghreb.

SUDAN

Numayri Receives King Fahd's Message 21 Jan

JN211514 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Jan (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today received a message from his brother, Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, within the framework of the continued consultations between the two fraternal countries. In his message, King Fahd praised Sudan's role toward the Arab issues.

Prince Turki al-Faysal, King Fahd's personal envoy who conveyed the message to President Numayri, said today that he reviewed with President Numayri the latest developments in the Arab arena and the efforts being exerted by Saudi Arabia and Sudan to clear the Arab atmosphere and to achieve unity in the Arab ranks.

The meeting was attended by First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib and the president's assistant for presidential affairs, Dr Baha' al-Din Muhammad Adris.

Numayri Receives Cables From Eritrean Leaders

JN211542 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Jan (SUNA) — The Executive Council of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces [ELF-PLF] has expressed its appreciation and gratitude to Sudan for hosting hundreds of thousands of Eritrean refugees and for Sudan's efforts and good offices to establish a just peace in Eritrea within the framework of the right of self-determination for the Eritrean people.

This statement was contained in the cable President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri received from ELF-PLF Executive Council Chairman Othman Saleh Sabe on Sudan's independence anniversary.

President Numayri also received a cable from 'Abdallah Idris Muhammad, head of the Revolutionary Council and the Executive Committee of the Eritrean Liberation Front, on Sudan's independence anniversary. In his cable, Idris stressed that the Eritrean people will not forget President Numayri's courageous stands on the side of the just Eritrean cause and his concern for the Eritrean people's legitimate rights to freedom, dignity, and loftiness.

SSU Condemns Foreign Interference

EA202035 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Mr Muhammad 'Abd al-Qadir Umar, secretary general of the Sudanese Socialist Union [SSU] has praised the People's Armed Forces for defending the faith, the homeland and the revolution with their lives and their blood. With this speech he opened the seventh meeting of the SSU General Secretariat [words indistinct] held this morning at the SSU headquarters. The secretary general said that those who carry arms against the homeland are incapable of [words indistinct]. This indicates the interference of a foreign state or foreign states.

The secretary general then touched on the duty of the political organization at the present time, stressing the need to make the people conscious of the dangers planned against them. He emphasized that the revolution with its faithful leadership is capable of stemming the attempts at strife and he stressed the need to protect the internal front by all means. The meeting reviewed every political aspect and duty of the political organization, both at home and abroad, at the present time.

At today's meeting the SSU General Secretariat made a number of important political decisions on the basis of the political organizations' responsibilities and as an affirmation of its role in relation to the masses and the homeland. Among the decisions taken is one which stipulates that the SSU General Secretariat should be in a state of alert and should meet every Sunday to issue a statement from the General Secretariat and from the mass and sectoral organizations confirming their support for the leader president in his political and historic stands and praising the role of the regular forces in backing the revolution and protecting national unity.

At the same time the Secretariat supported the leader president's statement about the independence of [words indistinct] and condemnation of all foreign forces interfering in the country's internal affairs.

The Secretariat also resolved to set up three committee: the first will support the People's Armed Forces and the regular forces; the second will increase consciousness, mobilization and concentration on the role of the regular forces. The third committeewill plan political moves in the southern part of the country. The General Secretariat also resolved to support the operations office of the General Secretariat and issue regulations aimed at protecting the internal front.

People's Assembly Supports Armed Forces

JN221037 Khartoum SUNA in English 0955 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum Jumad Awal 1 Jan 22 (SUNA) – The People's Assembly yesterday issued a statement on the conflict now taking place in some of our southern borders regions renewing its full support and stand behind our People's Armed Forces. The statement called for the dialogue as the sole way for just peace in order to maintain the nation integrity.

The statement urged the concerned bodies to intensify the serious contacts with brothers who carry weapons against the Sudanese people inside and outside the country and to convince them to respond to voice of wisdom and detente.

The statement went on to say that during the dialogue sessions held at the People's Assembly and the viewpoints that had been expressed by the brothers in the south and north a very important fact has been realized that there is a vast horizon for agreement on the reasons and results the matter which encourages to renew the call on the outlaws to judge to brain and wisdom. [sentence as received]

Springing from the principles of Sudan's foreign policy which are based on good neighborless and non-intervention in other countries' internal affairs, the statement condemned the intervention of some countries in Sudan's internal affairs and called on them to stop aiding the outlaws with weapons.

The statement called on the information organs to intensify their activities inside and outside the country to explain Sudan's policy in giving the citizens the chance to rule themselves through the regional government institutions.

SPLA Radio on Numayri's Moves Against Opposition

EA222141 Clandestine Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1800 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] According [illegible] reports monitored here last night, Numayri is [illegible] to stamp out the Republican Brotherhood movement in the Sudan. The reports say four more members of brotherhood are to stand trial soon charged with printing and distributing anti-government leaflets opposing the implementation of [illegible] shari'a code in the Sudan. Observers say they will definitely face the death sentence but can only save

their necks by repenting and denouncing their brotherhood. It is to be recalled that the leader of the Republican Brothers, Mahmud Muhammad Taha, was publicly hanged to death in Khartoum last Friday. Four others sentenced to death with him are supposed to have repented and denounced their brotherhood, according to a government report.

In this connection, a spokesman for the SPLA-SPLM said Numayri, who is now on the verge of his collapse, is desperately on the move to crack down on the opposition. which he thinks will save him from his troubles. However, the spokesman reiterated that the Sudanese people are determined to rid themselves of their oppressor and exploiter.

SPLA Radio: Government Officials, Students Defect

EA222142 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Thirty-five government officials, students and citizens from Yirol town, the capital of Yirol district in Lakes Province, have defected and joined the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] forces in the area commanded by Lieutenant Colonel P.S.T. Martin Makur Aleo.

In a related development, 35 government officials and police from Bor and the surrounding villages have also defected and joined the SPLA forces in the area commanded by Maj Benjamin (Nyankoth).

TUNISIA

'Arafat Arrives Following Baghdad Talks

LD221103 Algiers APS in English 1026 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Tunis, 22-01-85 (APS) — Mr Yasir 'Arafat, president of the Executive Committee of the PLO, arrived in Tunis on Monday evening coming from Baghdad following a three day tour in the Arab Republic of Yemen and Iraq. In Baghdad, Mr 'Arafat had talks with the foreign ministers of Iraq and Kuwait and with the Secretary General of the Arab League Mr Chedli Klibi.

The means to unify the Islamic efforts at finding a rapid solution to the Iraq-Iran conflict and the last development on the Palestinian scene was on the agenda of this meeting, said the Palestinian news agency WAFA.

SOMALIA

Finance Minister Denies Presence of U.S. Bases

PM181617 London AL-SHARQ Al-AWSAT in Arabic 17 Jan 85 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Somali Finance Minister Tells *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: No U.S. Bases in Somalia, Only Naval Facilities"]

[Excerpts] A high-ranking Somali official has denied the presence of any U.S. bases on Somali territory. He said that, like other countries, Somalia provides certain facilities for U.S. naval forces. These facilities, he said, are confined to giving U.S. naval units what they need. Somali Finance, Economy, and Culture Minister General Mohamed Shaykh Uthman [as published] described his country's relations with the United States as good.

In a statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* the Somali official, who is a member of the Somali command, also denied that there is a shipping route between Somalia and South Africa. He said that these claims are an Ethiopian fabrication forming part of its media campaign against Somalia to undermine Somalia's relations with the Arab and African states.

The Somali official expressed support for the efforts made by the Arab Gulf states and other Arab sides to convene an Arab summit conference. He stressed that the right atmosphere must be created to ensure the success of such a conference.

He also expressed his country's support for a conference of the Indian Ocean littoral states. He described the evacuation of the Ethiopian Falasha Jews to occupied Palestine as a new aggression against the Palestinian people and the Arab and Islamic nations. He reaffirmed his country's opposition to that step.

The somali minister has made a tour of the Gulf states to win their support for Somalia and persuade them to attend the meeting of the international consultative committee due to be held on 23 January in Paris to reschedule Somalia's debts. He urged Gulf states and organizations to participate in investment projects in Somalia.

The Somali minister said that, like other developing countries, Somalia is facing economic difficulties as a result of the worldwide recession and is trying hard to overcome these difficulties.

Defense Minister Regrets Lack of Italian Aid

PM221251 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 19 Jan 85 p 12

[Interview with Somali Defense Minister Mohamed Ali Samantar by Magdi Allam in Rome; date not given]

[Excerpts] "Italy has a historical responsibility to take care of Somalia's defense," we were told by Deputy President and Defense Minister Mohamed Ali Samantar at the end of his visit to Italy; "but unfortunately, because of the opposition of certain political parties, Italian governments have encountered difficulties in helping us in this field."

[Allam] What are the purposes of your visit to Rome? Did you inquire about the purchase of Italian weapons, and if so, which weapons?

[Samantar] I came here to Italy in response to an official invitation extended to me by my counterpart and very dear friend Spadolini. I have had the chance to meet with several Italian leaders and received a good welcome. It is not true that I came here to buy weapons, because everyone knows that Somalia does not have the means to do this. It is true that Somalia does not produce weapons and therefore inevitably has to turn to fraternal and friendly countries for its defense. These are headed by the United States, with which military cooperation exists, and from which we also enjoy annual military aid. It is followed by other friendly Western countries and Arab countries.

[Allam] Do these include Italy?

[Samantar] If Italy were to participate together with other Western countries, if it were to contribute to Somalia's defense, I would see no harm in it. Unfortunately Italy is one of those countries which, on account of its domestic problems and the opposition of certain political parties and certain sectors, does not help us in our defense, despite the fact that historically Italy was responsible for taking care of or at least taking part in Somalia's defense. Unfortunately, I repeat, the Italian Government — not only the present one but previous ones too — have always had difficulties in helping us in this field.

[Allam] It seems to me that the Italian-Somali joint committee is not meeting because of Somalia's unpaid debts, and some Italian parties maintain that some of the loans intended for development have been used to purchase weapons. What do you have to say about this?

[Samantar] The situation is not as you say. The latest meeting of the joint committee took place in September 1984 in Rome and the next one is scheduled to take place in Mogadishu shortly. It is untrue that development loans have been used to purchase weapons: These funds are adminsitered jointly by both committees and are allocated for specific economic and social development projects. Nobody — neither the Somali nor the Italian authorities — can divert them to military spending.

[Allam] Last November Italy was involved in the case of the hijacking of the Somali Airlines Boeing 707 at Addis Ababa airport. Can you tell us what happened to the seven Somali students, following the promise to suspend their sentences of capital punishment?

[Samantar] Italy and Egypt took on — either voluntarily or at our request — the task of mediating with Ethiopia, since we have no mission in Addis Ababa. But the hijacking of the aircraft had nothing to do with those students and there is absolutely no foundation to the theory put forward by the terrorists. The truth is that those students were sentenced not to capital punishment but to terms of imprisonment for the crimes they committed. I would add that they are not minors, nor are they all students. Now they could receive a pardon from the head of state, and that would happen in accordance with legislative procedures.

[Allam] There has recently been talk of the sale of Italian military transport planes to Ethiopia. What is Somalia's opinion of this? Did you discuss it with Italian leaders?

[Samantar] No, I did not discuss it. I have heard about it and we are making inquiries. Nevertheless, Italy or Italian firms are entirely free to do it; we cannot say to whom they should or should not sell weapons: It is not our policy.

TANZANIA

Minister of State Thanks GDR Minister for Aid

EA222138 Dar Es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The Tanzanian Government has thanked theGDR for its economic and social development assistance. Appreciation was expressed yesterday by the minister of state responsible for international cooperation, Ndugu Mustafa Nyanganyi, during a dinner he hosted in honor of the deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, Ndugu Manfred Flegel, who is visiting Tanzania. Ndugu Nyanganyi said that apart from launching various development projects in the country, the GDR had also trained several Tanzanians in various sectors of the economy. He said this was an indication of continued cordial bilateral relations and cooperation. Ndugu Flegel, who arrived in the country yesterday, will hold talks with various government officials today.

Treason Trial of 19 People Continues 22 January

EA222101 Dar Es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The second prosecution witness in the treason case facing 19 people today told the Tanzania High Court how the second accused, Captain Christopher Kadego, told him of the plan to kill the president and overthrow the government between June 1982 and January 1983.

The witness, Lieutenant (Ibu Muhsif Kamburi), said he met Capt Kadego in Arusha on 13 December 1982, where he told him how the accused and his group planned to kill the president and take over the government, but he was not told the other members of the group. He said he was told by the accused they wanted to overthrow the government because the forces were getting a poor diet, had no transport on grounds that there were no spare parts in the country, and that the forces were using worn-out uniforms.

Ndugu (Kamburi) further said that other allegations were that President Nyere had appointed Lieutenant General David Musuguri the chief of defense forces so that he could obey his orders as he was illiterate and that the president was not confident in his leadership. He said Capt Kadego, with whom they had been together at the Monduli Military academy in 1976, told him the plan was to be carried out between 18th and 19th December 1982, adding that if the plot was successful the new leader was to come from Kagera region. But he was not told the name of the would-be leader.

Lt (Kamburi) said the second accused was in Arusha to collect the ammunition (?of) seven machineguns to be used to kill the president. He said the two agreed to meet at (Miami) beach Guest house in Arusha on 13 December 1982 to give (Kamburi) further details on the plot. He said the same day he reported Kadego's intention to the former Arusha regional party secretary, Ndugu John Mhaville, who directed him to collect more information from the accused.

But Ndugu (kamburi) could not meet again with Kadego because the accused was no longer at the guest house, adding that he could not see him until today, when he identified him in the High Court. During cross-examination with the defense advocate for Capt Kadego, Ndugu Murtaza Lakha, the witness said he delayed to report the plot immediately to authorities because he wanted more information on the matter and to report to the leader whom he had confidence with and with whom they had been working together, that is Nudu Mhaville.

Lt (Kamburi) admitted to the court that he was the one who called Kadego for private talks in Arusha and not Kadego who called him as he said earlier today when testifying. The witness also contradicted himself when he said that he was told by the accused that the new leader of the government would come from Kagera, while in his written statement of 11 January 1983, he said the leader of the movement to overthrow the government would come from Bukoba.

Lt (Kamburi), who is also the Monduli district youth secretary, failed to give a specific date when he reported the case to Ndugu Mhaville as he said today that he reported on 14th, while the statement said he reported to him on 13th December 1982. He said both statements were true. On the guns to be used to kill the president, the prosecution witness in his written statement said they were to use machine guns, but today he maintained that the weapons were light machine guns.

The case has been adjourned until tomorrow when the third witness will testify.

Zanzibar President Discusses New Constitution

EA222113 Zanzibar Domestic Service in Swahili 1600 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Zanzibar: Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi, chairman of the Zanzibar Revolutionary Council and president of Zanzibar, has said that the new Constitution of the Zanzibar revolutionary government is intended to expand the basis of democracy so that the people can feel that government is for their own benefit. He said our previous situation necessitated that we change our style and practice true democracy and not one of words.

Addressing the members of the House of Representatives this morning, soon after opening the 14th session, Ndugu Mwinyi said that change is vital to the life of the nation and is a prerequisite for progress.

He asked the members to see to it that the hopes of the people are not crushed and to assure them that government is in their own interests.

Ndugu Mwinyi said that in the effort to expand democracy for the members of the House of Representatives, who are truly the people's representatives, they are given very great freedom to question the government without fear, and to supervise the work of the government.

He asked the members of the House to properly exploit the freedom given them by the Constitution to fight for the people's interests. Ndugu Mwinyi asked the members to cooperate in directing all efforts to plan and supervise the production of food.

Vice President Calls on Armed Forces' Aid

EA211929 Dar Es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Vice President Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi has called on the Tanzania People's Defense Force [TPDF] and the National Service to step up their participation in agricultural and voluntary work in a bid to bring about a total economic revolution and extricate the nation from economic recession. Ndugu Mwinyi made the call today when opening a 6-day meeting of senior TPDF and National Service officers and Defense Ministry officials in Dar Es Salaam.

Ndugu Mwinyi said the TPDF should set higher agricultural targets in order to help the nation economically, and should stress political awareness to gain a better understanding of the importance of defending our policy of socialism and self-reliance.

Speaking on the responsibilities of the TPDF, the vice president called on commanders to seek ways of involving the people in the task of national defense and of strengthening the militia [words indistinct]. He said the aims of our force differ from those of foreign armies, because our force is a party organ structured to promote the goals of the revolution and to fight to defend the policy of socialism.

Ndugu Mwinyi also called on TPDF servicemen to discard the notion that the Tanzania mainland and the isles' forces are two different entities.

Calling on the vice president to open the meeting, Minister for Defense and National Service Ndugu Muhiddin Kimario said the 6-day meeting is taking place in response to the speech that commander in chief Mwalimu Nyerere made during celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of the TPDF last September. In the speech Mwalimu charged the TPDF with heavy responsibilities designed to strengthen the force, including the drafting of proposals on a defense policy and a new structure for the Armed Forces.

UGANDA

Briefs

Outgoing DPRK, PRC Envoys — The outgoing Korean [DPRK] ambassador to Uganda, Mr Chang Tai-hui, has commended the success achieved by the government and people of Uganda since the 1980 general elections and hoped that the country will continue to attain higher avenues of development. Mr Chang Tai-hui's remarks came during talks with Vice President Paulo Muwanga whom he went to bid farewell at his office in Kampala. The ambassador assured him that his government will continue to extend sincere cooperation and support to the people and government of Uganda in rebuilding the country. Later the vice president received the outgoing Chinese ambassador to Uganda, Mr Li Shi. Mr Li Shi thanked the vice president for the cooperation the people and government of Uganda extended to him while in the country which, he said, had contributed to cementing further the existing friendly relations between Uganda and the PRC. Mr Li Shi highly appreciated the progress made by the Uganda Government and hoped the people will work relentlessly to recover from (?their most difficult times). [Excerpts][*Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Jan 85 EA*]

CAMEROON

Talks With Ivory Coast on Telecommunications

AB191418 Dakar PANA in French 1256 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Yaounde, 19 Jan (CAMNEWS/PANA) — The Ivorian delegation currently visiting Yaounde yesterday expressed the hope of very shortly receiving in the Ivory Coast a Cameroonian delegation in order to enable them to further their exchange of views in the field of posts and telecommunications. This was contained in the communique issued after discussions between the two sides.

The Cameroonian side, the communique continued, expressed satisfaction with the smoothness of their deliberations, and assured the Ivorian side of its preparedness to provide it with any complementary information it might need again. It also informed the Ivorian side of the government's intension to improve the administrative structures of the posts and telecommunications department in order respond to the ever-increasing demands of the public, and also to rationalize the administration.

The Ivorians, on their part, thanked the Cameroonians for the preparedness they have shown during the deliberations which were based on the organization of posts and telecommunications in Cameroon, the status of the staff, the system of salaries and indemnities, as well as future prospects. The Ivorian delegation was also received in audience by President Paul Biya to whom it delivered a personal message from President Houphouet-Boigny. The leader of the delegation, Ivorian Civil Service Minister Jean Jacques Bechio, expressed his satisfaction with the fruitful working sessions his delegation held with Cameroonian ministers and experts. The Ivorian delegation returns to the Ivory Coast today.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Joint High Commission With Sudan Meets

AB230630 Bangui Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The second session of the CAR-Sudan Joint High Commission meeting opened this morning at the UDEAC [Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa] palace under the chairmanship of Second Lieutenant Clement Michel Pascal Nga Gnii-Voeto. Both CAR and Sudanese delegates were present at the opening ceremony. The Sudanese delegation, which is led by Hashim 'Uthman, Sudanese minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Bangui yesterday morning. Opening this second session, 2nd Lt Clement Michel Pascal Nga Gnii-Voeto, CAR minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, referred to the importance of the relations of cooperation and good neighborliness existing between our two countries. In his speech, the CAR foreign minister, 2nd Lt Clement Michel Pascal Nga Gnii-Voeto, referred to the excellent relations existing between Sudan and the CAR. The CAR foreign minister expressed satisfaction with the fact that the meeting is taking place today to prove the determination of Sudan and the CAR to strive firmly, in the framework of the CAR-Sudan Joint High Commission, which is [words indistinct] the vehicle for discussion.

[Begin Gnii-Voeto recording] Finally, in order to maintain our relations, our close relations of good neighborliness, we believe that arrangements must be made jointly to put an end to the activities on our common border of uncontrollable elements who seek refuge in our border villages merely to harrass the peaceful citizens living there and to engage in poaching. In regard to this problem in particular, we are preoccupied by the ratification by our two states of the agreement on the fight against poaching and the preservation of the fauna, which could [words indistinct]. [end recording]

The Sudanese minister of foreign affairs referred to the solid ties between the CAR and Sudan, which he considers the logical result of the fact that our two countries share identical views on major African problems. The Sudanese foreign minister, who recalled the stand of our two countries which are neighbors of Chad, referred to the need to restore peace and security to that country because, he added, we are linked to Chad by ties of neighborliness and close brotherhood. Hashim 'Uthman also referred to and condemned racial segregation in southern Africa and praised the struggle of the South African people. He also spoke of the achievements being made on the path of national reconstruction by the Sudanese people under the clear-sighted leadership of President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and of the efficiency of the CAR-Sudan Joint High Commission.

[Begin 'Uthman recording] The CAR-Sudan Joint High Commission meeting has proven its efficiency in the promotion of the relations of cooperation and fraternity existing between our two peoples and heads of state. It has exemplarily succeeded in achieving cooperation in all fields, [words indistinct] permanent communication between experts of both countries who hold specialized commission meetings. [end recording]

CHAD

Ndjamena Radio Cites Ghali Comments on Chad

AB230950 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] In the face of Al-Qadhdhafi's persistent maneuvers against peace in our country, some peace-loving countries have been militating for the reconciliation of Chadians. One of these countries is Egypt, which is working for national reconcilitation in Chad. This was stated today on Radio France-Internationale by Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, who is now in Dakar after his visit to Bamako and Abidjan where he conveyed a message from President Husni Mubarak of Egypt to his Malian, Ivorian, and Senegalese counterparts on Egypt's position on the Chadian problem. Let us listen to Mr Ghali talking to Charles Lescaut:

[Begin recording] [Ghali] The proposal made by the Egyptian Government calls for a new conference in Brazzaville on national reconciliation in Chad in conformity with the recommendations adopted by the (?Franco-African) summit which had urged the incumbent chairman of our organization, Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, to seek the reconciliation of all the sons of Chad.

[Lescaut] But knowing Libya's role in this affair, do you feel this will be successful?

[Ghali] We believe that the dialogue must be initiated in spite of the difficulties. We are not underestimating the significance of foreign interference in the negotiations for national reconcilitation. It is important to promote dialogue and negotiations between the Chadian (?sides). [end recording]

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Former Ambassador Seeks Asylum in Paris

AB182010 Paris AFP in English 1706 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Paris, Jan 18 (AFP) — A former ambassador to France from Equatorial Guinea, Julian Eshono, has arrived in Paris with the intention of seeking political asylum, the president of a Paris-based Equatorial Guinean opposition group has said here. The statement, released yesterday by the Social-Democratic Convergence (CSD), a coalition of opposition groups set up here in 1983 and headed by Manuel Ruben N'dongo, said Ambassador Julian Eshono had been recalled to the west African country on January 5, 1983. He was "immediately arrested, tortured and imprisoned without trial" for 17 months at Black Beach Prison in the country's capital of Malabo for siding with the CSD, the statement said. The CSD is an opposition coalition comprising the Paris-based Democratic Rally for the Liberation of Equatorial Guinea (DRLEG) and the Equatorial Guinea African Socialist Party (EGASP) which has its headquarters in the northern Spanish town of Ovedio. Colonel Obiang Nguema has ruled the small West African state, a former Spanish colony, since he overthrew the military regime of Marcias Nguema in August 1979.

GABON

Bongo Holds Talks With Soviet, PRC Envoys

AB220940 Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The head of state received in audience yesterday afternoon His Excellency Latyp Maksudov and His Excellency Tian Yimin, ambassadors of the USSR and PRC respectively. According to the Soviet diplomat, he was mandated by his country to brief President Omar Bongo on the Soviet-American conference on disarmament which took place in Geneva. His Excellency Maksudov seized this opportunity to discuss with the head of state the different aspects of cooperation between Gabon and the Soviet Union. The Chinese diplomat, who presented his credentials last week, expressed satisfaction with the bilateral relations between Libreville and Peking.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Your Excellency Tian Yumin, you are the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the PRC to Gabon. You have just been received by President El Hadj Omar Bongo. Could you tell us what the main topic of your discussions was?

[Tian] As you know, our two countries maintain friendly, cooperative relations. These relations are excellent. We therefore discussed ways in which China could help strengthen and further develop these cooperative relations. Our discussions covered all sectors. As you know, we already have fruitful relations in the political, economic, commercial, cultural, scientific, and technical fields. The crucial task now is to consolidate and strengthen this solidarity and cooperation. [end recording]

Elections To Be Held 17 February, 2 March

AB222000 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The legislative elections in our country will be [words indistinct]. Therefore, the people are expected to elect their representatives, that is the members of the National Assembly.

The first ballot will take place in the whole country on 17 February 1985 and the second ballot will be on 2 March. As a prelude to the first ballot, the files of candidates are already being examined. The members of the Central Committee of the Gabonese Democratic Party are in charge of examining the files of the various candidates [passage indistinct].

ZAIRE

Opposition Figure Reportedly Tortured to Death

NC222238 Paris AFP in English 1807 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Nairobi, Jan 22 (AFP) — A Zairean opposition figure was tortured to death by security forces after the recent bloody uprising in Shaba Province, according to an opposition movement purportedly operating in neighboring Tanzania. A statement to that effect from the "Tanzanian section of the Congolese National Movement-Lumumba", dated January 7 from Dar es Salaam, was received today in the Kenyan capital. It said a member of the movement's governing committee, Jean-Pierre Feruzi, died January 4 after undergoing "prolonged torture and atrocious maltreatment" at an interrogation center at Kalemie, Saire, on Lake Tanganyika across from Tanzania. The statement said Mr. Feruze and a number of other people were arrested "arbitrarily" after the uprising by rebels November 12 in the town of Moba, south of Kalemie, in which more than 100 civilians and 10 soldiers were killed, according to reports from Zaire.

Subsequently, sources in Kinshasa have spoken of continuing rebel activity at a lower level around Kalemie. On January 2, President Mobutu Sese Seko sacked the Shaba Province governor and sent his deputy into early retirement after having reportedly jailed the commander of the Moba garrison.

At the time of the Moba uprising, the Zairean Government charged that it had been carried out from Tanzania by Zairean exiles. The Tanzanian Government denied allowing Zaireans to carry out anti-Mobutu activities on Tanzanian soil.

BENIN

National Assembly Holds Session 14-22 Jan

AB230805 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The 195 parliamentarians who began an ordinary session on Monday, 14 January 1985, today ended their meeting at the P.L.M. Aledjo Hotel in Cotonou. The closing meeting was presided over by Comrade Romain Villon Guezo, chairman of the Permanent Committee of the National Revolutionary Assembly [ANR]. For 9 days the parliamentarians discussed the various draft bills presented to them by the National Executive Council and the Standing Committee. Before ending its session this afternoon, the ANR adopted two resolutions and made a recommendation to the National Executive Council, especially to its national chairman, Comrade Mathieu Kerekou. The first resolution demonstrates the total support of the parliamentarians for the analysis made by the head of state in his address to them at the session's opening ceremony . The resolution deals with the food security of the Beninese people and approves the necessary measures taken by the National Executive Council on 4 January. The parliamentarians urged him to pursue the fight against fraudulent and illegal exportation of our food items to neighboring countries.

The second resolution dealt with the drastic measures taken by the head of state to stamp out arbitrary arrests, which demonstrates the dogged determination of President Mathieu Kerekou to have revolutionary legality strictly respected in our country in all fields and in particular in the field of individual freedom.

Finally, the parliamentarians sent a recommendation to the National Executive Council on measures aimed at reducing government expenditures. This recommendation, in my opinion, demonstrates that the parliamentarians have fully understood the analysis made by the president concerning our economic difficulties; these have been exacerbated by the world economic crisis, which has affected us as it has other small countries with limited resources. For more details, here is the final communique issued today at the end of the meeting of the parliamentarians and read by Comrade Pierre Osho, general secretary of the Standing Committee of the ANR:

[Begin Osho recording] The National Revolutionary Assembly held an ordinary session from Monday, 14 January, until Tuesday, 22 January 1985, at Cotonou, under the chairmanship of Comrade Romain Villon Guezo, chairman of the Standing Committee of the ANR. The parliamentarians of the ANR, aware of the greatness and the seriousness of the socioeconomic difficulties of our country, followed with keen interest the profound analysis made by the chairman of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin [PRPB] and head of state. In light of pertinent lessons learned from this analysis, they examined carefully and in a responsible manner all the issues contained on the agenda of the session. The National Revolutionary Assembly, in conformity with Article 41 of the Constitution, has approved the draft bill on the 1985 national budget. It is a balanced budget of 50,768 billion CFA francs.

Finally, on the proposal of the Central Committee of the PRPB and in conformity with Articles 41 and 43 of the Constitution, Comrade Marcos Bienvenu has been elected member of the Standing Committee of the ANR and chairman of the External Relations Commission of the assembly. [end recording]

GHANA

AFP: Students Call for Free Elections

AB211536 Paris AFP in French 1402 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Accra, 21 Jan (AFP) — In a communique issued in Accra by the National Union of Ghana Students [NUGS], the ruling Provisional National Defense Council, PNDC, has been asked to enable the Ghanaian people to freely choose their destiny. In this communique the student movement launched an indirect appeal for free elections in Ghana and called on the PNDC to publicly present its future political objectives. It will be recalled that last year the Ghanaian head of state, Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, promised to return the country to democratic rule and announced preparations for the return of political parties, which remain banned, to the political scene. Finally, the communique added that the NUGS condemns, just as the Trades Union Congress did, the Ghana Government's acceptance of the IMF conditions which have led to an increase in prices and four currency devaluations in 1 year. One notes that the NUGS communique is the first to be published since the clashes between students and the police in 1983,which led to the closure of the universities for nearly a year. These incidents took place at demonstrations during which students called for a return to civilian rule and an improvement in the economic situation.

Tripartite Committee on Minimum Wage Increase

AB211856 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The Tripartite Committee has confirmed its decision last month that the 35 cedis minimum wage should be increased by 100 percent to 70 cedis. A statement issued in Accra after a meeting by the committee said for the implementation of the increase throughout the private and public sector, it agreed that for last month, wages should be increased by 50 percent across the board for any worker. For this month, a rationalization of the remaining 50 percent is to be applied. On personal income tax, the committee agreed that the proposed tax schedule by the commissioner for income tax shall be processed for study and consideration by the members of the Tripartite Committee. The statement was signed by the secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, (Bernaman Mensah) of the Employers Association, and the secretary general of the Trades Union Congress Mr A.K. Yankey.

Soviet Youth Group Arrives for 3-Day Visit

AB182020 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Three hundred and fifty-one youths arrived at the Tema harbor today to begin a 3-day visit to Ghana as part of an African

tour. They were met on arrival by the secretary for youth and sports, Mr Amarkai Amarteifio, and officials of the Soviet Embassy in Accra. Mr Amarteifio asked the youths to feel at home to learn at firsthand more about the people of Ghana. He hoped they would go back home with good memories of Ghana. The secretary emphasized that the government seeks genuine friendship and cooperation with all countries and he hoped their visit will further strengthen the cordial relations between Ghana and the Soviet Union.

The leader of the group, Mr Vladimir (Kologen), said although the visit is short, it will go along with strengthening relations between the two countries. The group later visited some factories and institutions at Tema.

The group leaves on Sunday for the Congo.

GUINEU-BISSAU

Religious Leader Threatens Legal Suit

AB201130 Paris AFP in French 1407 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Lisbon, 19 Jan [AFP] — Cheikh Ousmane Sountou Badji, in an open letter to Guinea-Bissau's head of state, General Joao Bernardo Vieira, announced his intention to institute an action at Guinea-Bissau's Ministry of Justice against the State Council of the former Portuguese colony for "voluntary libel."

On 9 January in Lisbon, Cheikh Badji, who is leader of the Islamic community at Sindiam (Casamance, southern Senegal), proposed former Guinea-Bissau President Luis Cabral as a candidate for the post of OAU secretary general. Guinea-Bissau's State Council at that time condemned this initiative, describing it as interference in the internal affairs of a country and denouncing it as a manipulation by "some obscure economic and financial connections of the former president."

In his open letter, Cheikh Badji added that he could also institute an action in the international court so that more light would be thrown on these obscure underlying economic manipulations.

On the other hand, on Saturday, Cheikh Badji stated in Lisbon that the announcement of the imminent release of Guinea-Bissau's former leaders, made on Friday by General Vieira, revealed "the high humane stature and the concern for unity" of the Guinea-Bissau head of state.

Cheikh Badji, who will be leaving Portugal immediately for Africa, was received in audience this week by the president of the Portuguese Republic, General Antonio Ramalho Eanes.

LIBERIA

Press Union Appeals to Leaders on Press Role

AB211842 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] In the delicate process of returning the country to civilian rule, the Press Union of Liberia, PUL, has appealed to the national leaders and politicians to give the press a chance to play the role of professional and impartial referee.

According to today's *NEW LIBERIAN*, the president of the Press Union of Liberia, Mr (Kenneth Y. Best), observed that it was the responsibility of the press to educate the people on the meaning and purpose of democracy and about the rights and responsibilities of the citizen in the democratic system. Mr (Best) was speaking Saturday evening at a program marking the installation of officers of the revitalized Press Union of Liberia at the Monrovia City Hall. The PUL president then called on all Liberians to respect and obey the constitution and laws of the country by doing only those things which are within the laws. Mr (Best) reminded journalists to ensure that they enjoyed the trust and respect of the public by exhibiting high degree of integrity in the performance of their duties.

Performing the ceremony, the British ambassador to Liberia, Mr D.G. Reid, congratulated PUL on its revitalization after several years of inactivity and urged members of the Union to respect the challenges of their profession. The British envoy also reminded the press of its obligation to inform the public of daily happening and cautioned journalists to be always mindful of this responsibility.

LPP To Present Registration Requirement

AB221937 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The Organizing Committee of the Liberian People's Party, LPP, will present the formal registration requirement Friday, January 25th, to the Special Election Commission [Secom]. According to a release issued yesterday by the LPP Organizing Committee, the formal registration includes a party emblem, a motto, and 500 names from each of the 6 counties in the country, and 750 signatures of party members as provided by Section 4 of the Guidelines for Party Registration.

In a letter to Secom, the chairman of the LPP Organizing Committee, Dr Amos Sawyer, informed the commission that LPP is prepared to submit the formal requirement in compliance with Secom's requirement.

MALI

Mali-Egypt Joint Commission Session Held

Session Opened

AB191148 Paris AFP in French 0859 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Bamako, 19 Jan (AFP) — The third session of the Mali-Egypt Grand Joint Commission for Cooperation was jointly opened in Bamako yesterday by Alioune Blondin Beye and Butrus Ghali, Malian minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation and Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, respectively.

The two ministers reiterated the determination of their governments to work toward the strengthening of Malian-Egyptian

cooperation and to make it a reality in spite of the financial difficulties and the obstacles to the promotion of South-South cooperation. Questions to be examined at the session include,notably, cultural and economic relations. Sources close to the commission have indicated that young Malians are studying in Egypt which, in the commercial field, supplies a small quantity of cotton fiber and sugar to Mali while the latter supplies Egypt with leather and animal skins.

Press Conference Held

NC191308 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] At a press conference in Bamako, the capital of Mali, held after the final session of the Egyptian-Malian Joint Commission, Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, said that cooperation between Egypt and Mali is moving forward, thanks to the instructions of Presidents Husni Mubarak and Moussa Traore. He said that the commission meetings have succeeded in giving a strong impetus to that cooperation and that the talks at both the bilateral and African levels have been useful and fruitful. He added that the Malian president handed him a message for President Mubarak, in reply to President Mubarak's message to his excellency.

The minister of state for foreign affairs said that the complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon will be a step toward comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the Middle East.

He said that the airlifting of the Ethiopian Jews to Israel should not be undertaken at the expense of the Palestinian people and their national rights. Israel should also not exploit this operation as a new pretext for establishing illegal settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

A joint statement on the results of the Egyptian-Malian talks will be issued this evening in Cairo and Bamako.

OAU's Onu Arrives, Comments on Visit 20 Jan

AB211200 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] The acting OAU secretary general arrived in Bamako this morning. Peter Onu was welcomed at Bamako-Senoo Airport by Alioune Blondin Beye along with his close associates and African ambassadors accredited to Mali. Bamako is the first leg of a tour of the Sahelian countries by Peter Onu. He spoke to Lamine Coulibaly on the purpose of his visit:

[Begin Onu recording in English fading into French translation] I am visiting a number of countries in the Sahel that have been adversely affected by drought. I am here to get first-hand information on the situation and to report to the heads of state, who will try to find appropriate solutions to the problem during the economic summit which will be held soon. It is within this context that I am undertaking this tour of the Sahelian countries. The second reason for the visit is to prepare the economic summit which should take place soon. It is to enable us to prepare clear and precise documents for the heads of state so that they can take the necessary measures. These are the two reasons for my African tour. [end recording]

Peter Onu will shortly take part in the Army Day festivities at the (Amdalaye) Airport. This evening at the Hotel de L'Amitie, he will exchange toasts with the head of Mali's Foreign Affairs Department, and he will be received by the head of state tomorrow.

Meanwhile, all journalists and press attaches present in Bamako are invited to participate in the press conference that will be given by Peter Onu at the (Djama) Hall of the Hotel de L'Amitie at 1300 tomorrow.

NIGER

Kountche Receives Libyan Delegation 18 Jan

AB182100 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, received in audience this afternoon a Libyan delegation led by Mohamed (Arab). The delegation is in the country to attend the inauguration of the new mosque in Niamey.

Agreements With Belgium; New Libyan Envoy

AB221626 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Ide Oumarou, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and Mr (Det Lelens), the Belgian ambassador to Niger, signed two special agreements this morning. The first one provides for building a center for mother and child care in Dosso, and the second provides for a cooperation project related to the creation of a salt production unit in Niamey for oral rehydration. The Belgian contribution amounts to about 420 million CFA francs.

Mr Oumarou also received a letter appointing Mr (Ali Mansour Ateni) as secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

NIGERIA

Chief of Staff Meets With Bulgarian Envoy

AB212154 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Nigeria has assured Bulgaria of her determination to strengthen the economic, technical, and cultural cooperation between the two countries. The assurance was given today in Lagos by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Major General Tunde Idiagbon, while exchanging views with the Bulgarian ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Dimitur Ivanov Vulev.

The ambassador was with the chief of staff to deliver a special message from the Bulgarian prime minister, Mr Grisha Filipov, to the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari. The ambassador also briefed Gen Idiagbon on the proposed state visit of the Bulgarian prime minister to Nigeria, scheduled to begin on Friday.

Commenting on the visit, Gen Idiagbon stated that it would give both countries the opportunity to discuss more areas of mutual cooperation and further cement their existing relations. On the international scene, the chief of staff expressed disatisfaction over the disarmament and nuclear arms proliferation. Gen Idiagbon remarked that Nigeria believed in self-determination, non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, as well as the promotion of world peace.

Mauritanian Envoy Delivers Message to Idiagbon
AB230714 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Developing countries have been urged to be prudent in the management of their available resources. The remark was made today at Dodan Barracks by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Major General Tunde Idiagbon, while exchanging views with the minister of culture, youth, and sports of Mauritania, Mr Ba Mahmud.

The chief of staff said that what led to a change of leadership was similar to Nigeria's experience and expressed the best wishes of the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, and the people of Nigeria to the new regime in Mauritania. Gen Idiagbon said that at the inception of the Federal Military Government, messages were sent to friendly countries to explain reasons for the change of government in Nigeria. The (?minister), who was at Dodan Barracks to deliver a special message from the Mauritanian head of state, Colonel Maaouiya Ould Taya, to his Nigerian counterpart, had earlier given reasons for a change of government in his country. This, he said, was due to favoritism and a large-scale corruption on the part of the deposed former leader, Colonel Haydala.

Minister on Conditions for Reopening Radio Stations
AB191154 Lagos NAN in English 1038 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Owerri, Jan 18 (NAN) — All the radio stations recently closed down by the Federal Military Government would be re-opened when the country's economy improved and if the continued presence of the stations were necessary, the minister of information, social development, youth, sports and culture, Group Capt Emeka Omeruah, said in Owerri yesterday.

He told newsmen that government could no longer maintain the huge number of staff in the Federal Government-owned radio and television stations, adding that government wanted a situation where it could manage its staff strength effectively. Group Capt Omeruah said that the Federal Government was still studying the report submitted by the Kolade Commission on rationalisation of television services and that its view would be made public soon.

The minister commended the press for the work done so far in salvaging the country. Without the press, he said, it would have been difficult for the present military administration to do all it had done. "The press has done well and I hope it will continue to be partners in progress," the minister added.

AFP: 2 Britons Rearrested After Court Discharge
AB190836 Paris AFP in English 0730 GMT 19 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 19 (AFP) — Two Britons accused of stealing one of a dozen privately-owned planes grounded last May by Nigeria's Military Government were discharged by a court here Friday but rearrested almost immediately.

The two, aircraft engineers Kenneth Clark and Angus Patterson, allegedly conspired to remove a Sidney-125 jet, said to belong to a local brewery firm, from the airport here last May 19 without authorisation. The plane's British pilot and his assistant were intercepted in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, when they stopped to refuel. The pilots were allowed to go, but the plane was returned to Nigeria and the engineers charged.

The judge dismissed the case Friday at the request of the federal attorney-general. But both men, who had earlier been refused bail, were rearrested outside the court. A police spokesman said they had orders to redetain them and refused to give further details.

The plane became part of a diplomatic row between Lagos and London over the failed kidnapping of wanted former Nigerian Transport Minister Umaru Dikko in London last July 5. The military government asked Britain to send the two pilots of the plane to Lagos to be tried for violating Nigeria's territorial integrity. Nigeria denied any involvement in the kidnapping, for which three Israelis and one Nigerian are currently on trial in Britain.

100 Feared Drowned in Opobo Channel 13 Jan
AB221130 Lagos NAN in English 1125 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] Port Harcourt, Jan 22 (NAN) — The police in Bonny, Rivers, on Saturday recovered 13 bodies of the more than 100 people feared drowned when a boat in which they were travelling capsized at the Opobo Channel on Jan 13, the Rivers police command said in Port Harcourt yesterday.

A spokesman for the command told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that the exact number of people on board the boat and the number who drowned were not known. The spokesman said that the survivors were not cooperating with the police in their investigations.

A NAN correspondent learnt at Odo in the Bori local government area of the state, from where the locally built outboard engine boat took off, that the boat, which had three decks, was capable of carrying about 400 passengers.

NAN also learnt that the boat was on its way to the Cameroon when it ran into a wreckage along the Opobo Channel.

U.S, Policy Toward South Africa Critiqued

AB221300 Lagos International Service in English 0950 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Viewpoint]

[Text] The United States, like any other country, knows too well that the major concern of Africa and this country is the liquidation of the monstrous political system of apartheid in South Africa. And since apartheid has been universally declared as a crime against humanity, Africa rightly expects the United States and other nations which proclaim themselves the best democracies to actively aid the struggle for the elimination of apartheid.

But in this regard, the United States under President Reagan's first-term administration deeply disappointed Africa. Under what it called the policy of constructive engagement, President Reagan's government, from 1980 to 1984, threw its economic and military weight behind the apartheid regime while telling the world that the aim of the policy was to bring about a change in South Africa's political system. The futility of this policy manifested itself almost immediately as the racist regime became more defiant of world opinion and stepped up its brutal oppression of the African majority. And so President Reagan was told in clear terms by African and other world leaders that the policy of constructive engagement had become an unmitigated disaster.

It is because of this that many people in the United States have been taking part in demonstrations almost daily against collaboration with apartheid since the reelection of Mr Reagan last November. A good number of American political leaders from both the Republican and Democratic parties have raised their voices in utter condemnation of the so-called constructive engagement policy.

However, Mr Reagan raised a flicker of hope for a change in policy when in his last Human Rights Day speech for the first time he publicly condemned apartheid and called on the racist clique in Pretoria to reach accommodation with the African majority for the desired change. This had, however, been taken by cautious political analysts as only a mere political declaration which has to be translated into concrete action if the authorities in Washington really mean to help in bringing about the desired change in South Africa.

It was in this hope that Nigeria, for example, welcomed the reelection of Mr Reagan in November. In a major foreign policy statement in Lagos, the Nigerian leader, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, regretted that the misguided policy of constructive engagement, which has been pursued for years by the U.S. Government under President Reagan, had been the backbone of South Africa's intransigence over Nambia's independence and the liquidation of apartheid. Therefore, if the United States does not want to be foe of Africa, President Reagan has to undertake a drastic review of his fraternization with apartheid South Africa.

SENEGAL

Egypt's Ghali Continues Visit to Senegal

Fall, Ghali Speak at Luncheon

AB212233 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, continues his official visit to our country. After his working session this morning with his Senegalese counterpart, Mr Ghali was the guest of honor at a luncheon hosted by Ibrahim Fall at the Teranga Hotel. After lunch, the two ministers discussed cooperation between the two countries. Keita Gueye has the details:

[Keita Gueye] Relations between Senegal and Egypt, I think it will be superfluous to say, are very good. In the field of bilateral cooperation in all sectors, Senegal and Egypt have been cooperating; since the early days of our independence in the field of education, training, and in the further training of cadres, Egypt has been giving us all its experience and material support. Thus Ibrahim Fall, our minister of foreign affairs, did not fail to highlight this exemplary cooperation between our two countries.

[Begin Fall recording] Mr Minister of State, I am convinced that our two countries, which have convergent ideas in all fields, can solve a lot of problems confronting our continent by pooling our efforts. It is therefore fortunate that we find ourselves side by side not only within the UNO, the Nonaligned Movement, the Islamic Conference, and the OAU, but also at the bilateral level such as the one that has brought us together here today.

Mr Minister of State, the Senegalese Government is convinced that Egyptian-Senegalese relations will grow in strength and intensity in light of the elements I have just cited in the best interest of the Egyptian and Senegalese peoples. [end recording]

The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs expressed happiness over the good understanding and the exemplary cooperation existing between Senegal and Egypt, and talked about justice and peace as a factor for development. Butrus Ghali stressed the existence of tensions in Africa and observed that without peace there can be no development. That is why Butrus Ghali thanked and congratulated Presidents Husni Mubarak and Abdou Diouf for paving the way in this direction.

[Begin Ghali recording] I would like to mention our special, privileged, genuine, and growing relations between Dakar and Cairo. These relations enable us to consult one another and to tackle the problems on our continent. That is why it was wise on your part to mention this morning that we should begin by discussing bilateral relations between our two countries — way of giving a new impetus to the cooperation between our two countries — because on the rest, that is, all the burning economic and political issues on our continent and the rest of the world, we have identical views. [end recording]

The Egyptian minister tomorrow will give a lecture at 1830 on prospects of peace in the Middle East at the Hotel Teranga.

Butrus Ghali was invited by the Nation and Development Club to give this lecture. Prior to this, at 1100, Butrus Ghali will give a press conference to Senegalese and foreign journalists. Right now, the Egyptian foreign minister is being received in audience by the head of state.

Received by Diouf

AB220740 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The head of state today received several personalities including Butrus Ghali, Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs, who is bearer of a personal message from His Excellency Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt. The audience took place in the presence of Ibrahim Fall, minister of foreign affairs, His Excellency Hasan (Hamadan), Egypt's ambassador to Senegal, and His Excellency Chams Eddine Ndoye, Senegal's ambassador to Egypt.

Ghali Holds Press Conference

AB221906 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] South-South cooperation: Egypt has just established an important landmark in this field. During a press conference this morning at Teranga Hotel, Butrus Ghali disclosed that his department has created a solidarity fund for development in Africa. The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs also spoke at length on the next OAU economic summit meeting.

[Begin Ghali recording] One of the topics I had the opportunity to touch on was the problem of South-South cooperation, that is to say inter-African cooperation. It is within this framework that we have created the solidarity fund. Because Egypt does not have petrodollars it cannot participate in great African projects; however, it possesses technicians and men of goodwill whom it puts at the disposal of brotherly African countries in order to enable them to prepare this South-South cooperation. Our opinions are unanimous on this issue because during the discussions that I held with my African counterparts, we agreed that there cannot be a truly balanced dialogue between the South and the North if before then there is no dialogue between the South and the South; that is to say, this cannot happen if the South does not try to know itself better, and if the South is not able to help the South. This is one of the new subjects that I hope will be the topic of discussion at the ministerial council meeting to be held in Addis Ababa to prepare the ministerial summit [as heard]. What we request from the donor countries, especially the community of the great industrialized countries of the North is not only to assist Africa bilaterally, but also to help the African states to be able to help one another. In other words, to encourage inter-African cooperation by way of external aid. [end recording]

In the political field, when Mr Ghali was questioned about the African League of the Black States proposed by Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko, he said that Egyptian diplomacy is categorically opposed to this proposal and added that we must transcend the linguistic barriers and build a powerful and strong Africa.

Concerning the Iran-Iraq war, the Egyptian minister said that his country adopted a neutral position when the conflict began but when Iraq appealed to Iran for negotiations and the Iranians rejected the appeal, then Egyptian diplomacy simply changed its stand. Egypt, therefore, supports Iraq and sold it weapons. It also supplied it with technicians, the minister said. Mr Ghali further said that Egypt has now appealed to the diplomacy of the nonaligned countries to find a peaceful solution to the conflict.

Concerning the Falashas, Mr Ghali said that this problem should not overshadow the Palestinians' problem because there are Palestinian refugees living everywhere outside their homeland. That is why the Falasha operation should not eclipse the fate of the Palestinians.

As for the Palestinian issue, Mr Ghali spoke at length about it. He said that Egypt intends to continue to respect the Camp David accords and if his country could bring the sides involved in the conflict together Egypt would do so.

Concerning the Western Sahara issue, Butrus Ghali said that Egypt has not recognized the SDAR but was of the view that its admission into the OAU would not paralyze the organization.

Creditors Agree to Debt Rescheduling

AB191136 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Senegal's major creditor countries, including France, today agreed on an important rescheduling of our country's external debts spreading the repayment over 9 years with a 4-year grace period.

In a statement issued following a 2-day meeting in the French capital, Senegal's 11 principal creditor countries, meeting in the Paris Club, expressed satisfaction with the confirmation given by the IMF on 16 January to its agreement with the Senegalese Government's economic and financial program. It was in the presence of Senegalese Economy and Finance Minister Mamadou Toure that the representatives of the Paris Club member-countries agreed on the principle of an important rearrangement of Senegal's external debts resulting from loans and credits the creditor countries have granted the Senegalese Government or from those it has guaranteed.

Faced with an economic and financial crisis aggravated by the drought, in the middle of December 1984 Senegal presented its 7-year economic recovery program to the consultative group of the donor countries which met at the instance of the World Bank — the first of its kind in a French-speaking African country. On that occasion, the principle of new aid to Senegal to the tune of $500 million in 1985 was decided upon.

ANGOLA

Party Conference Issues Final Resolution

MB210952 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0908 GMT 19 Jan 85

[The final resolution of Angola's MPLA-Labor Party first national party conference, read by Central Committee member Paulo Jorge at the closing session of the conference in 10 December Conference Hall in Launda on 19 January — live]

[Excerpts] Comrade President, comrade members of the Presidium, comrade delegates, the final resolution:

Under the chairmanship of Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, and in conformity with the decision of the first extraordinary congress, the first national party conference met from 14 to 19 January 1985 and was attended by 552 delegates from all our country's provinces.

According to the guidelines given by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos during his New Year message, the first national party conference exhaustively reviewed the work carried out since the 1980 extraordinary congress in the party's internal life, in state activities, and by social and mass organizations. The conference also drew up the general regulations that will guide the preparations for the second ordinary party congress.

The conference adopted the following order of work: the strengthening of the leading role of the party and the fundamental principles of economic policy in the People's Republic of Angola; the development of material production, social development, and the improvement of the people's living standards; and the strengthening of defense and security.

In order to successfully carry out the discussion of previously drafted and studied themes, the chairman of the conference established plenary sessions and meetings of the following commissions: the commission for strengthening the leading role of the party, the commission managing the economy, the productive sector commission, the social sector commission, and the defense and security commission.

Based on the important enlightening speech by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos during the opening session, which was adopted as the working document of the conference, the delegates made a broad, detailed, and critical examination of the proposed themes and approved recommendations that each of the issues debated be examined until the second ordinary congress.

Since the founding of the MPLA-Labor Party in December 1977, important and decisive steps have been taken to establish, develop, and improve the party. Presently, the strengthening and organizing of the party at all levels and in all activities to consolidate its leading role and make it gradually more effective in leading the Angolan people in the struggle to build socialism, constitutes the foremost and continued task of the entire militant mass.

With regard to strengthening the leading role of the party, the conference attentively examined the themes of party organization and growth, ideological unity, authority, prestige and liaison with the popular masses, political and ideological education of the party members and people, party and state liaison, and the problem of cadres. The conference recommended the following in the field of party organization and growth:

A. Strengthening party organization and mechanisms to ensure the party an effective leading role over the state and the entire society and to ensure a rigorous implementation of the party guidelines by state organs;

B. Improving liaison and information channels between central and intermediary structures of the party and between them and grassroots organizations, as well as improving the control and assistance activity of minor organs by major organs;

C. Improving party municipal committee structures to make them more active and effective and closer to party grassroots organizations;

D. Revaluing the role played by political activists in party development and giving priority to their specialization;

E. Intensifying the restructuring and functioning of the party in the countryside by taking into account the concrete characteristics of our country and increasing grassroots party organs and establishing production associations and cooperatives;

F. Intensifying the work of party cells at workplaces and finding ways for them to exercise a leading role for the party, namely through their participation in the management councils of enterprises and in the central and local organs of the state, as well as through the selection of principal management cadres;

G. Defining a strategy for party growth in a set period by establishing goals to be achieved in each social category, while always taking into account the need to improve the social composition by giving priority to working and peasant classes;

H. Adopting new ways to allow the improvement of the management, followup, and control of the MPLA Youth Wing.

With the aim of preserving and strengthening party unity within a framework of ideological unity, authority, and prestige and carrying out liaison with the popular masses, the first national party conference drew up the following recommendations:

A. Liaison between ideological work and work on concrete problems in the fields of economy, politics, education, culture, science and technology, and international relations is needed.

B. The Marxist-Leninist training of party members and cadres must be continuously monitored in order to prevent the infiltration of enemy ideology and all manifestations of ideological deviation.

C. An ideological struggle must be undertaken to achieve greater cohesion in party ranks, thus strengthening national unity.

D. All members, leaders, and party organs must work to solve the people's problems to the best of their ability, to adapt the party to the aspirations of the working class and the conditions and requirements of the country, and to establish close liaison with the people and the working and peasant classes.

E. Internal unity must be consolidated by strengthening ideological unity based on Marxism and Leninism and achieving organizational unity, by observing and applying party programs, statutes, and principles, particularly democratic centralism, which is fundamental for the restructure and activity of the party. The unity and internal discipline should exercise great influence on the vanguard role of the party over the state and society.

F. As always, we must make our national unity and the unity of the broad popular masses part of our resistance and our victorious struggle against imperialism and external aggression and for economic independence, people's power, and peace. The party must continue to work with all its efforts to fight tribalism, regionalism, and racial prejudice as well as to fight against obscurantist concepts in general and atheistic work in particular within the framework of our present struggle for national unity geared toward defending the strategic interests of our entire people.

G. Through all party structures we must fight incorrect behavior of some leaders, cadres, and party members.

Taking into account that the main task of the MPLA-Labor Party is to educate the working masses concerning Marxism and Leninism and combat bourgeois ideology and petit bourgeois behavior, the conference examined the political and ideological education of party members and our people and recommended the following:

A. Revitalizing the study programs and studying in depth the causes preventing their normal functioning;

B. Consolidating the centers of political education by first extending them to headquarters of provincial committees and later to the headquarters of the municipal committees and, when there is justification, to enterprises, and holding courses for coordinators and supervisers of the courses on political education.

With regard to liaison between the party and the popular masses, the conference recommended:

A. Strengthening the mass organizations as the main transmitters of party guidelines to the entire people, thus ensuring the effective participation of the broad popular masses in the study, discussion, and application of party policy in all sectors of the country's activity;

B. Creating conditions to transform the people's vigilante brigades into an independent mass organization.

Taking into account the importance of cadres in the development of the country, the conference expressed particular interest in the draft document on the policy of cadres and recommended:

A. Studying the document more deeply;

B. Defining a method of performance appraisal to be uniformly applied to party and state cadres.

On relations between the party and state, the conference recommended the following:

A. The party must improve and strengthen the mechanisms to ensure efficient leadership and effectively monitor and control state organs.

B. The state, under the leadership of the party, must constitute the main instrument to apply party policy, thus implementing its revolutionary principles in the interests of the working masses.

C. The Central Committee Secretariat must give greater attention to carrying out the guiding and leading role of the party over the state apparatus through the party grassroots organizations.

In the field of managing the economy: During the 4 years since the first extraordinary MPLA-Labor Party congress, the national economy and most of our people bore and are still bearing the heavy burden of the war that is being imposed on us. This situation, compounded by inadequate resources, a great scarcity of technical cadres, and weak control by the bodies managing the economy, caused most of the tasks defined by the congress and the economic objectives set to be only partially implemented. If the war affected the size and amount of the national revenue resources required for defense and security, it also limited the money available for development and consumption and directly affected the labor force and professional training. It restricted the labor force's participation in production and obstructed the peaceful and organized work in rural and urban areas. Thus, while attentively analyzing the need to implant general economic measures that may permit the stabilization and subsequent development of the national economy, the conference defined the following as priority objectives:

1. To give absolute priority to the needs of the country's defense;

2. To improve the supply of products to the people and achieve greater work and production efficiency as a precondition to ensuring the process of the economic and social stabilization;

3. To give priority to establishing economic relations with the rest of the world in order to balance the national economy;

4. To improve economic management methods;

5. To effectively apply standards for evaluating personnel;

6. To readjust sectoral economic development guidelines in the light of principles now approved.

In the field of international cooperation, the conference specifically recommended:

A. The establishment of rigid criteria for hiring foreign technicians in accordance with the annual plan governing our needs and only in labor sectors that do not have people with the required skills;

B. The in-depth study of all the problems regarding technical assistance.

On the efficient use of human resources and the improvement of the skills of workers, the conference decided to take the following measures:

A. Greater control must be exercised over the national labor force, particularly the skilled labor force, by using it at production enterprises to ensure their functioning.

B. The bodies managing human resources at central and enterprise levels must be strengthened to facilitate functions concerning labor and salaries, routine management, and control of the application of labor laws.

In the field of material production, the need to substantially improve the living standards of the working masses in particular and the population in general have received the particular and permanent attention of the competent party and government structures so as to progressively promote material production. Thus, the production sector has the enormous responsibility of ensuring the increase of the production of essential goods in order to ensure a sufficient national supply of foodstuffs, reduce imports, promote exports, and guarantee the supply of technical and material goods, the auditing of accounts, and the planning of action needed to improve the technical, professional, and cultural skills of sectorial workers to ensure their participation in the management of state enterprises in particular and the economy in general. Thus, the conference discussed in depth the most pressing problems of the production sector and particularly recommended the following:

In the sector of agriculture, (?rice farming), and cattle raising:

1. To give priority to establishing centers for agricultural development as an efficient form of supporting the peasant associations that have already been constituted and those to be constituted in the priority regions;

2. To progressively incorporate the farming areas of the peasant sector into the national plan, particularly by broadening the technical and material support to the main food crops.

3. To establish a correct marketing policy by keeping in mind that prices must fairly remunerate work, including the expenses involved. We must also ensure the production of essential goods that meet the needs of the peasants and may contribute to stabilizing the monetary supply.

In the field of the manufacturing industries: In the sectors of food and light industries, priority must be given to producing goods to supply the defense and security forces as well as to meet the needs of the working masses, while the heavy industry must give priority to the industries supplying the means of productions, mainly for the agricultural and livestock raising sectors and products for the emergency program.

In the field of the geology and mining industry, we must:

1. Rationally develop the mining activity in the areas being exploited, contribute to supplying natural and other resources to the national industry, and improve the country's balance of foreign exchange;

2. Give particular attention to increasing the production of diamonds, extracting and cutting of ornamental stones and saline quartz, using processed phosphates, and prospecting for and studying the technical and economic viability of exploiting polymetallic and nonmetallic minerals.

In the energy sector, the development and production of energy sources will have to be carried out within a general plan for the social and economic growth capable of improving energy consumption and the knowledge of the country's resources in the hydro and thermoelectric sources as well as the new and renewable sources of energy.

2. [Number as heard] In the field of the development of production systems, transport, and distribution, the development of each of the great production systems will be continued with a view to establishing a link between them to increase the security of our energy supply and the profitability of the interrelated production systems.

In the field of fishing:

1. To increase the use of the national fishing fleet, particularly by repairing and modernizing the existing vessels in order to increase fishing;

2. To make greater effort to repair and build refrigerating [as heard] facilities for fish salting and drying as well as storage warehouses in the main towns so as to improve the system of distributing fish;

3. To encourage the formation of fishing associations and cooperatives;

4. To give priority to supplying food to fishing vessels crews as well as to establishing incentives for them;

5. To promote an increase of salt production within the emergency program.

In the field of oil:

1. To try to ensure a balance between levels of production and reserve based on the rational use of resources for production and those kept in reserve to ensure the necessary revenue for the social and economic development of the country;

2. To implement training and specialization programs of cadres in the sector so as to ensure a greater integration of national cadres at all levels;

3. To fully use the capacity of refineries by utilizing finished products to meet the country's consumption needs and give priority as far as possible to the manufacture of light goods instead of heavy ones;

4. To continue to improve the infrastructures of the distribution of fuel, namely the railroad and road transport network, to complete stock piling projects, and to strengthen the transport fleet in order to more efficiently ensure sufficient quantities of fuel to the whole country;

5. In the framework of foreign marketing, the policy of storing surplus production in the best conditions, giving priority to contracts and the diversification of sales to agencies and countries will be maintained.

In the sector of transport and communications:

1. To meet the needs of the national economy and transportation of goods and passengers and significantly improve the level of response to the needs of the people;

2. To give special attention to the preservation, maintenance, and general repair of the means of transport in order to respond adequately with the [words indistinct].

In the field of social development, the social problems facing the working masses in particular and the population in general were significantly reflected in the productivity of the workers and consequently in the production of essential goods for the well-being of the Angolan people. However, eradication of phenomena still prevailing in the sectors of education and teaching, culture, health, social assistance and security, sports, education, community services, justice, and labor will not be easy as long as the present political and military situation and the consequent economic and social problems caused by it prevail.

Thus, after an in-depth discussion of social problems, the conference recommended: In the sector of education and teaching:

A. To implement the priority character of the sector in accordance with the already established guidelines;

B. To encourage an analysis of the system so as to improve its quality.

In the sector of assistance and social security:

A. To develop in conjunction with other organizations more efficient means to assist children, working women, war orphans, returnees and displaced persons, the aged, the handicapped, and refugees;

B. To implement concrete programs for educating and giving professional training to the handicapped in conjunction with the ministries of labor and social security, education, health, and the secretariats of state for social affairs and war veterans.

In the field of defense and security: Despite the fact that they are constantly attacked by imperialist forces, which compels them to make greater sacrifices to ensure the defense of the principles of the Angolan revolution, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity of their fatherland, the Angolan people in general and very particularly the glorious defense and security forces have given proof of a lofty patriotic spirit and extraordinary courage and heroism.

Over the past several years, the defense and security forces have become politically, technically, and materially more capable of confronting the enemy as a result of the MPLA-Labor Party's supervision of the ideological and cultural training of the defense cadres so that they can better serve the people, the nation, and the revolution. In this context, and after an in-depth analysis of the themes regarding the party political work and the policy on cadres in the defense and security forces, the conference made the following recommendations:

A. We must continue to regard defense as a priority sector in the whole complex of the party and government tasks. We must duly coordinate the social and economic development of the country with the demands of the political and military strategy.

B. Let us make greater efforts in the political training of officers, noncommissioned officers, privates, sailors and other cadres in their ideological training as well as in the initiation and functioning of the party grassroots bodies and the party youth.

C. We must continue to regard the struggle against the puppet gangs as the main guideline for the activities of the defense and security organs, so as to fight without giving quarter until their total annihilation, without losing sight of the agressive intentions of our external enemies, particularly those of racist South Africa.

UNITA Warns of Serious Action Against SWAPO

MB221915 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The Angolan movement, UNITA, has issued a warning that it may have to take serious measures against SWAPO. The permanent secretary of UNITA's Executive Committee, Mr (Tito Chingunji), says SWAPO forces are stationed far from the South-West African border inside Angola. He said that in supporting the Angolan Government in its fight against UNITA, SWAPO was murdering Angolan civilians. He said that if this continued, UNITA would have to take punitive measures.

LESOTHO

Jonathan Addresses Seminar for Cabinet Members

MB221753 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, says that a politically neutral civil service in one good aspect inherited from the British colonial power. Addressing a seminar for Cabinet ministers in Maseru today, the prime minister said a neutral civil service must at the same time be loyal to the government of the day and to the nation.

Dr Jonathan said he is perfectly satisfied with the current administrative structure which must be blended with our traditional system of government because, he said, over the past 18 years he has concluded that the two systems are complementary. He said through the dynamic policy of the Basotho National Party, this country has been able to diversify its foreign relations to accommodate both the Eastern and the Western countries. He

added that he would also like to see our economy mixing only the good aspects of capitalism and socialism and not to be dependent on any one system. Dr Jonathan said that as head of government he has found his task less difficult as he has had a smooth communication between himself and his Cabinet colleagues. He said he foresees the multiparty system working efficiently in Lesotho as long as the opposition recognizes its functions as a loyal opposition. He said he had found it unnecessary to advocate for a one-party system because the people themselves will reject the opposition as the Basotho people have already begun to do so as he had advised.

MOZAMBIQUE

Planes From Malawi Reportedly Supplying MNR

MB181849 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] There were reports today from three provinces of Mozambique concerning recent arms supplies from foreign aircraft for the Mozambique National Resistance terrorists. The administration in the northwest, in the Province of Tete, says Mozambican troops opened fire on two aircraft which overflew the province last Monday. The first plane was a Dakota, the second, which followed closely behind, was a much smaller (?light) aircraft. When antiaircraft units opened fire, the two planes altered their direction and flew into Malawian airspace. Eyewitnesses say similar overflights have been witnessed in recent weeks and that the planes flying from Malawi drop supplies to the terrorists and then return to Malawian airspace.

42 'Armed Bandits' Killed in Inhambane

MB211725 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Military operations carried out by the FPLM in Inhambane during the second week of this month in the districts of Morrumbene, Vilanculos, Massinga, and Inharrime resulted in the killing of 42 armed bandits. Our radio station in Inhambane Province said that during these operations, the FPLM captured 16 weapons, 4 grenades for 81mm mortars, and 1 grenade for 70 mm mortars, among other war materiel. It adds that these victories are the result of the FPLM's high morale.

NAMIBIA

Defense Official Reports Lusaka Accord Violations

MB181928 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] A senior staff officer of the South-West Africa Territory Force, Colonel (Aas Kleinhans), says there have been 102 violations of the Lusaka agreement between South Africa and Angola. Speaking at Oshakati, Col (Kleinhans) said South Africa had been responsible for only three of the violations. He said that none of the South African violations had been conducted in the course of either preemptive or follow-up operations against SWAPO.

The accord between South Africa and Angola was signed early last year and made provision for the withdrawal of South African trooops from southern Angola. In return, the Angolan Government had guaranteed to keep SWAPO terrorists from the area vacated by the South Africans.

Viljoen Congratulates Force on Exercise Near Angola

MB221723 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The chief of the Defense Force, General Constand Viljoen, has congratulated the Territory Force of South-West Africa on the successful battalion exercise which it carried out in the north of the territory.

Gen Viljoen said the exercise was not nearly as large as similar South African military exercises, but that it had been necessary if new members of battalions involved were to get to know the territory for which they were responsible.

The exercise is held yearly about 20km from the border with Angola on an exercise ground which is used to orientate troops in the territory.

SOUTH AFRICA

Defense Force Discusses Anti-SWAPO Raid in Angola

MB191219 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 19 Jan 85 p 2

[By Noel Bruyns]

[Text] Windhoek — The South African Defence Force has not excluded the possibility of launching a cross-border attack on SWAPO headquarters in Angola.

This emerged during a briefing of journalists at the two-day military exercise "Vuiswys" in Ovambo this week.

Colonel A.S. Kleynhans, Senior Staff Officer of the SWA Territory Force Military Information Service, said that despite South African-Angolan peace negotiations, "We are still at war with SWAPO."

"SWAPO will not start the main thrust of its annual incursion before the rains fall. But we've had intelligence from captured SWAPO terrorists that SWAPO is in training and that there are indications of an incursion.

"We are expecting an infiltration to take place and it is not excluded that we might decide to go for SWAPO headquarters again. However, there is no decision at the moment," he said.

SWAPO abandoned its permanent bases in the south of Angola when South African forces crossed the border and set up headquarters in Cuvelai.

However, there were reports that SWAPO was moving into "certain areas" south of Cuvelai.

Col Kleynhans said the Joint Monitoring Commission (JMC) had had little effect in curbing SWAPO movement in Angola.

"FAPLA has told us they cannot control SWAPO," he said.

Defence Force figures showed SWAPO's strength to be 8,000 men, of whom 65 percent were engaged in anti-UNITA battles, he claimed.

Col Kleynhans said the military operation held this week could not be linked with a SWAPO incursion as SWAPO did not pose a threat to the conventional forces of the SADF.

However, the exercise, which was carried out 50km south of Ruacana on the SWA/Angolan border by the conventional force of 61 Mechanised Battalion, was based on a cross-border strike into Angola.

Terrain similar to that of southern Angola had been chosen for the exercise to simulate a realistic war situation.

Police Kill UDF Member in Arrest Attempt

MB230627 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] A rural executive member of the United Democratic Front, UDF, has been shot and killed by police in Beaufort West. Beatty Hofmeyer reports from Cape Town.

[Hofmeyer] UDF executive member, William (Crutchie), was shot dead in his home by police, who were arresting him in connection with the stoning incident last Saturday. (Crutchie's) family immediately called House of Representatives member (Anwar Essop). According to (Essop), three police officers tried to arrest (Crutchie), who was busy feeding his son. He asked to be allowed to dress. Soon afterwards, tear gas was fired into the house and a shot was fired. Police deny this, and claim that (Crutchie) resisted arrest, and was shot after attacking a police officer with a table fork. Late yesterday, a large crowd of demonstrators gathered outside his house. Police used tear gas to disperse them.

Commander of Ciskei Defense Force Suspended

MB221532 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The commander of the Ciskei Defense Force, Brigadier A.A. Nel, has been suspended. Ciskeian Minister of Defense Chief D.N. Mabuso has confirmed that Brig Nel and two other seconded officers have been suspended pending a meeting with the South African authorities.

The other officers are Major J.H. Lewis and Captain F.R. Barnard SAPA also reports that Captain Mabuso has confirmed that the three men had been barred from entering any military bases.

The suspensions come in the wake of the report of the inquiry into the deaths of two Ciskei soldiers in shooting incidents at (Sandile) and (Mapasa) bases and allegations of irregularities at the bases. The Ciskei cabinet must still fix a date for talks with the South African minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, and the chief of the Defense Force, General Constand Viljoen.

Seconded Staff of SADF Withdrawn From Ciskei

MB221541 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 22 Jan 85

[Text] As of today the South African Government has withdrawn all seconded staff of the South African Defense Force [SADF] from Ciskei. In a message handed over by the South African Embassy in Bisho on behalf of the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, to the Ciskeian Government, it said that a recent action by the Ciskeian Government is clearly contrary to the principles of international law and to relations between the two countries. Mr Botha said therefore the Ciskeian Government has left the South African Government with no alternative other than to immediately withdraw all members of the SADF still serving in Ciskei.

The decision takes effect immediately. Our political news staff reports that although it is not directly stated in Mr Botha's message to the Ciskeian Government, the South African Government's action comes after the dismissal of the commanding officer of the Ciskeian Defense Force, Brigadier Nel, and two fellow officers who have been seconded by the South African Government to Ciskei.

The two officers are Major J.H. Lewis of the (Sandile) Base, and Captain F.R. Barnard of Bisho. The Ciskeian defense minister, Chief Mabuso, confirmed earlier that the officers would not be allowed access to their various bases.

ANC Ready for 'Informal Dialogue' With NP Members

MB210948 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The ANC says it is ready for informal dialogue with any National Party [NP] member of Parliament from South Africa. That is the word from our Harare correspondent. Howard Barrell has just spent a week in Lusaka sounding out the ANC's position on dialogue.

[Barrell] If NP Member of Parliament Wynand Malan, who called publicly for ANC-government talks yesterday, were to visit Lusaka as an individual and not as a representative of his party or the government, he would find individual members of the ANC prepared to talk informally to him. This is the clear impression I was given last week during extensive inverviews with a large amount of ANC leaders and officials in Lusaka. ANC members would, however, not meet him as a representative of the government or his party, and any individual ANC members would not be binding their organization in any way, these ANC officials told me. Such discussions could also not be construed as ANC-government talks of any kind.

The ANC was prepared to allow individual ANC members to meet anyone from South Africa informally, if that person was interested in its program and [word indistinct] I was repeatedly told.

SWAZILAND

Foreign Minister Comments on Relations With ANC

MB211130 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1815 GMT 20 Jan 85

[From the "News Review" program presented by Cliff Saunders]

[Excerpt] [Announcer] Good evening. In recent weeks Swaziland's authorities have lashed out repeatedly at ANC violence in that country. It has been violence in revenge, since Swaziland decided to clamp down on ANC strikes against South Africa. Cliff Saunders examines the situation.

[Begin video] [Saunders] Many of the black states [words indistinct] the problem, although they regard it as an obligation of catering for and harboring so-called [words indistinct]. It has, on occasion, been the topic for considerable dispute between South Africa and her neighbors, South Africa claiming that many of these refugees are nothing but ANC terrorists. Only a few weeks ago, Swaziland's commissioner of police, Mr Majaji Simelane, appealed to members of the ANC in Swaziland to behave like refugees and [words indistinct] Mr Simelane said the ANC was waging an undeclared war in Swaziland. Here in Mbabane, the South African Broadcasting Corporation's news correspondent, Glenda Warburton, outlines what the ANC has [words indistinct] in the country recently.

[Warburton] The first indication that Swaziland had that the peaceful coexistence she had enjoyed with ANC refugees had been shattered came in November 1983, with a series of armed robberies and hold-ups. Later on, after the signing of the Nkomati Accord, there was a dramatic escalation of ANC members entering the country illegally. The Royal Swaziland Police were aware of the fact that the ANC had a number of safe houses in the country. When they went to investigate, they were met with armed resistance. In the following weeks, a number of gun battles ensued, during one of which a police officer was killed and another seriously wounded.

At the same time, unsuccessful diplomatic representation was being made to the ANC headquarters in Lusaka. After many months of negotiations in both New York and Lusaka, it was finally announced that ANC-Swazi relations had been normalized. The ANC had been made to understand the conditions if their refugees stay in this country. However, the Swaziland Government was soon to be disillusioned. The deputy commissioner of police in charge of security, Petros Shiba, was brutally gunned down. A number of gun battles ensued, and culminated in a daring jail break, in which three ANC members were released.

[Mhambi Mnisi, Swaziland Foreign Minister] These incidents have (?been) unfortunate, because as far as Swaziland is concerned, we are still going to discuss with the ANC and reach a certain agreement. Now, if things of this nature occur, I do think that, then our discussions in the future will be very difficult. [sentence as heard]

[Saunders] Mr Minister, it does appear as if the ANC is under the impression that the Swaziland Government is under obligation to assist it, because it is a liberation movement fighting against South Africa.

[Mnisi] Well, I cannot blame them on that score, but we have made it clear ourselves, that we are not going to allow any person to use this country as a springboard to attack his enemy. There we are quite clear. We cannot afford that. If there is any problem which the ANC feels we could help it in, definitely they should come to us. We will say to South Africa: South Africa, the ANC says it wants peace. Therefore can you come together and discuss this matter amicably? We will not allow that this should be used as a springboard. That is not in our philosophy. That is not in our policy.

[Saunders] But do you not think you owe that to the ANC, as a liberation movement that is fighting against the South African Government?

[Mnisi] We do not think so, because we pay our dues to the liberation movement. I do not think so, that then, by paying our dues, then it means that we should even give our land for that type of a thing, and commit suicide.

[Saunders] [words indistinct] between genuine refugees from South Africa [words indistinct]?

[Mnisi] If you are caught in the bush, no other country would allow such people in its territory. Definitely, you would not say you are a freedom fighter because you stay in the bush and start killing people in the bush. No, our own policy is clear. If you are a genuine refugee, you will come forward to the authorities concerned, then you register yourself, and you are known by us, we are giving you protection.

[Saunders] But it appears to be difficult to implement that policy, because the ANC is nevertheless involved in violence.

[Mnisi] Definitely, that is why we want the whole world, because, as it is, at the moment we would be blamed as if we are just thirsty to kill people and the like. We would like the whole world to know that these people are doing such activities on us, so that, when we act, because there will be a time when we will start acting, then we will be able to count on all these various incidents, and the world will say, definitely Swaziland. Nobody could sit down and just look, when its citizens are being molested by such people.

[Saunders] Have you not acted yet, Mr Minister? I think also the impression is going that Swaziland is really sitting back and letting itself [word indistinct].

[Mnisi] Not at all. Diplomatically, all our friends — the United Nations knows, the OAU — we are not sitting down, no, we are working, but we do not want everything we do to be publicized in papers. That is not in our culture. We are doing a lot of work. This office has done a lot of work. We have been explaining our

position [words indistinct] That is why you find today that the world is not so interesterd in putting us in papers and the like, except our friends, your [words indistinct] said Swaziland, go ahead, do these things peacefully, amicably, without shouting to the world.

ZIMBABWE

Mangwende Attacks ZAPU, UANC Leaders at Rally

MB210700 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] Six rallies were held in Harare yesterday to mark the beginning of an election campaign for the forthcoming general election. Addressing more than 15,000 people at Gonzura Stadium yesterday, a member of the ZANU-PF Central Committe, Witness Mangwende, said the question of a one-party state will be a central issue after the election.

Comrade Mangwende, who is also the minister of foreign affairs, said ZAPU and UANC [United African National Council] should stop dreaming about ever coming to power. He said the ZAPU leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo, because of his association with racist South Africa, has declared himself an enemy of the people. Comrade Mangwende attacked Bishop Muzorewa's political-campaign using the church as a platform, and warned that churches should not be used for this purpose.

Demonstrations Opposing Nkomo Visit Continue

MB200800 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Demonstrations against the proposed visit to Chinhoyi today by the ZAPU leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo continue. Yesterday about 300 youths in Chinhoyi staged a second demonstration against the visit. On Friday, more than 5,000 people in the town staged the first of the planned three demonstrations against the proposed visit by the ZAPU leader. Police in Chinhoyi have confirmed that Dr Nkomo will hold a rally in the town today.

The ZANU-PF youth chairman in the province, Comrade (Assidio Chicherwa) said the people in the area do not welcome Dr Nkomo's visit in the face of the recent murders of party officials by dissidents. He said although ZANU-PF youth intend that today's demonstration should be a peaceful one, he is not prepared to guarantee their reaction if provoked.

The ZANU-PF provincial chairman for Mashonaland West, Comrade (Alexio Mudzima) said the people in Chinhoyi do not want Dr Nkomo, but ruled out the possibility of violence during his visit.

Labor Official Denounces Chinhoyi Office Attack

MB210707 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Text] The deputy minister of labor, Comrade Robson Manyika, has warned minority parties against provoking the ruling party, ZANU-PF.

Addressing a rally at Muriel Mine near (Muturushange) yesterday, Comrade Manyika denounced the attack on a ZANU-PF office in Chinhoyi, where some windows were broken by ZAPU supporters. He also appealed to the miners and farm workers, who have lived in Zimbabwe for more than 5 years, to register as voters.